

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

**Navy gets
a leg up on
Air Force**

Back page

Navy fullback Kyle Eckel



**This month,
bring a little Latin
to your life**

Scene

**'South Park' duo
takes on terror
in 'Team America'**

Page 35

Kim Jong Il puppet
from new film 'Team America'



Volume 63, No. 169 © EPSS 2004 J

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2004

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Taking a stand



- Bush, Kerry face off on foreign policy in first presidential debate
- Candidates clarify Iraq stances
- Finding truth in what they said

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T-birds take tour to Misawa

Page 3

Staff Sgt. Mark Dawkins,
a member of the U.S.
Air Force Demonstration Team
"Thunderbirds," signs
autographs for pupils Tuesday
at Sollars Elementary School
at Misawa Air Base, Japan.
Dawkins, crew chief of
"Thunderbird 4," talked about
the Thunderbird mission and
answered questions.

Mikal Canfield
Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

D.C.-area sniper case: A judge dismissed an indictment Friday against convicted sniper John Allen Muhammad, ruling that Virginia waited too long to try him for capital murder in the death of an FBI analyst who was shot in a store parking lot.

Muhammad, already convicted and sentenced to death for one of the sniper killings, was to have faced trial beginning in January in the analyst's death, one of 10 killings that terrorized the Washington area over three weeks in October 2002.

Peterson trial: Scott Peterson showed greater interest in the police search for his missing pregnant wife, Laci, than what jurors in his murder trial were originally told, according to the lead detective on the case.

During cross-examination on Thursday, Modesto police Detective Craig Grogan acknowledged that Peterson made many more inquiries than once a month.

Gun maker lawsuit: The country's largest firearms maker is not liable for the shooting of two police officers by a felon, a judge ruled.

Former Orange, N.J., police officers Dave Lemongello and Kenneth McGuire are not entitled to damages from Southport, Conn.-based Sturm, Ruger & Co., Inc., Kanawha County Circuit Judge Irene Berger ruled Thursday. The officers sued the gun maker and a South Charleston pawn shop two years ago, arguing they should pay damages because a Ruger handgun sold at the shop had been used to shoot them in the January 2001.

EPA smog report: Few of the cities most prone to smog now meet federal standards or have shown progress over the past decade in reducing the pollutants that cause it, the Environmental Protection Agency's internal watchdog says.

Those few improvements "may be more related to changes in weather patterns than emission reductions," says the report released Thursday by the agency's inspector general.

'Three-strikes' law: Florida's law mandating longer prison sentences for repeat felons was upheld Thursday in a 4-3 ruling by the state's Supreme Court in Tallahassee.

Fla. right-to-die case: Attorneys for the parents of severely brain-damaged Terri Schiavo argued Thursday she would have been profoundly affected by new Catholic teachings on end-of-life issues.

In March, Pope John Paul II said a person in a persistent vegetative state still has the



Riots in Haiti: Haitians scream and push for water handed out by the U.N. peacekeepers at the CARE food warehouse in Gonaives, Haiti, on Thursday. Rioters shot into the air and smashed windows of cars blocked by flaming tire barricades in a Port-au-Prince suburb on Friday, the day after shootouts during a march to demand the return of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide killed at least three police officers.

right to basic health care — including nutrition and hydration — and to withhold it would be a sin.

Genesis recovery: Three weeks after the Genesis space capsule slammed into the Utah desert after its parachutes failed to deploy, NASA scientists remain hopeful they can salvage the mission and reveal clues about the origin of the solar system.

The scientists are nearly finished picking apart the capsule's mangled inner canister, which housed disks of exotic materials used for 2½ years to capture solar atoms outside the Earth's magnetic shield.

World

EU referendum: President Jacques Chirac said Friday that France will decide in a referendum whether it wants Turkey to join the European Union — a potential blow to the Muslim-majority country's bid.

Chirac said he has asked the government to prepare a constitutional amendment that would require a referendum to be held whenever the EU wants to take in a new member.

North Korea talks: — The United States and China expressed confidence that six-nation talks aimed at convincing North Korea to give up its nuclear program would succeed, despite missing a September target for holding a new round of meetings.

Secretary of State Colin Powell and his Chinese counterpart, Li Zhaoxing, said diplomacy should concentrate on bringing the isolate North back to the negotiating table.

Sudan troops: U.N. mission officials in Sudan said Friday they hope for an expanded African force to be on the ground in Darfur by the end of October, after Sudan's foreign agreed to allow in 3,500 outside troops.

U.N. officials hope to get a beefed-up force in "as near future as possible" for Darfur, where turmoil continues in a 20-month-old conflict that has killed more than 50,000 people and driven 1.4 million of Darfur's non-Arab villagers from their homes.

Business

Fannie Mae investigation: Fannie Mae, the giant mortgage company that has been accused of earnings manipulation by regulators, now also has become the subject of a criminal investigation by the Justice Department.

A federal agency that oversees Fannie Mae and its government-sponsored sibling, Freddie Mac, cited serious accounting problems after eight months of investigating. And the Securities and Exchange Commission is conducting a preliminary inquiry into Fannie Mae's accounting.

Stories and photo from wire services

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THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL

expires 10/9/04

T-birds are ready to color sky at Misawa

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN

Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Even though Thursday's forecast was bleak, the red, white and blue jets visiting this northern Japan base would be ready for show time.

As a steady drizzle fell Wednesday afternoon, maintainers in blue suits performed a swing shift, prepared to tow the soggy F-16s into Hangar 949 to wipe them down with rags, check for maintenance problems and touch up any paint chips.

"Some things can go pretty good if nothing is broke," said Master Sgt. Tim Bollinger, sortie support section chief for the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds. "Other nights, we may be out here until the wee hours of the morning."

The Thunderbirds — the Air Force's Aerial Demonstration Squadron from Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. — are wrapping up their monthlong Pacific tour with several shows in Japan.

But after dazzling crowds in Guam and South Korea, the team has yet to put on a demonstration for this island nation.

Bad weather grounded the air show last weekend at Japan Air Self-Defense Force's Hyakuni Air Base and a Sept. 15 show at Kadena Air Base was canceled in the wake of a Marine helicopter crash on Okinawa this summer.

On Wednesday, a day before the Thunderbirds were to perform a closed show at Misawa, the team optimistically ran through a practice demonstration. Six jets took to the air, performing only a few more than 30 maneuvers in their repertoire due to low clouds as pilots familiarized themselves with the terrain in a five-mile ring around the airfield.



JENNIFER H. SVAN/Stars and Stripes

Thunderbirds pilot Maj. Scottie Zamzow stops to sign a few autographs for Japanese journalists at Misawa Air Base, Japan, on Wednesday after jamming after practicing an aerial demonstration.

"We're looking forward to putting on some great demonstrations and showing the U.S. airmen over here at Misawa, as well as the Japanese people, just what our Air Force is all about," said Maj. Scottie Zamzow.

Zamzow, one of three fighter pilots selected for the team last year, trained twice a day for four months before the Thunderbirds' 70-show season began in March.

One of the more challenging maneuvers the team performs is the six-ship delta formation where all six jets fly together, 18 inches apart, he said.

Zamzow's favorite trick consists of flying straight up for three miles while performing continuous vertical rolls.

"That requires a little bit better weather than we had today," he said Wednesday. "It requires about 15,000 feet."

Zamzow and the Thunderbirds will have to wait until Sunday to dazzle. The remnants of Typhoon Meari forced the team to cancel the Misawa show Thursday, leaving it with one more Japan show at JASDF's Hamamatsu Air Base.

"If we could just get the weather to cooperate, we'd be set," said Capt. Steven Rolenc, Thunderbirds public affairs officer.

Indeed, after months of planning, all the pieces — minus Mother Nature — are in place for the Thunderbirds' 30-minute air show. Planning for the team's first Pacific tour since 1994 began in earnest in January, Rolenc said. A 2001 Pacific trip was canceled after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. The Thunderbirds came to the Pacific this year, in part, to honor JASDF's 50th anniversary.

"We're out here representing the United States Air Force and we're showing off capabilities of the United States Air Force to our allies," as well as celebrating partnerships with U.S. allies, Rolenc said.

Show sites and schedules had to be selected carefully. Bases need to provide everything from jet fuel to sealed smoke oil drums for the jets and rental cars and lodging for personnel. Permission also must be gained for five miles across and 15,000 vertical feet of airspace.

The team lugged 83,000 pounds of passengers, luggage and cargo across the Pacific in four KC-10s, with two of the aircraft serving as tankers. Among the baggage were a spare engine, 11 extra wheel sets, 30 tire skins, red, white and blue paint and a trailer of tools and headsets.

See **THUNDERBIRDS** on Page 4

AAFES says price it pays for gas for Japan soon to rise 36 cents per gallon

BY DAVID ALLEN

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Consumers aren't the only ones paying more for gas in Japan and Okinawa.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service, which raised the price for a gallon of unleaded gas by a dime Friday, also is paying more to fill its tanks.

The exchange's website, which handles retail gasoline and diesel fuel sales on all Okinawa bases and on Army and Air Force bases in Japan, announced the price it will pay for gas in fiscal 2005 has increased an average of 35 cents per gallon.

AAFES buys its fuel from the Defense Energy Supply Center, which set its fuel prices for 2005 in Japan at \$1.38 per gallon for unleaded gas and \$1.31 for diesel. That's an increase of 36 cents for unleaded and 34 cents for diesel, said Sgt. First Class Amanda Glenn, of AAFES Pacific Region Public Affairs on Okinawa.

"Customers will continue to pay \$1.74 for midgrade and \$1.61 for diesel in October and will see a 10-cent increase in fuel prices each month until we reach the Department of Energy's previous four-week average in the United States," Glenn said.

In September, AAFES announced it was changing a decades-old policy of establishing an annual price for gas in Japan and Okinawa. AAFES officials said the change brought gas prices here in line with the pricing policy at other overseas locations.

"AAFES's objective is to offer pump prices that are consistent with the CONUS (United States) average regardless of where troops are stationed," AAFES Commander Maj. Gen. Kathryn Frost said when the new policy was announced.

E-mail David Allen at: allen@pstrsipes.osd.mil

Teams to inform troops, spouses of teaching jobs

Official: Many in military have skills needed in the classroom

BY JOSEPH GIORDONO

Stars and Stripes

YONGSAN GARRISON, South Korea — Teams with information on the Troops to Teachers program — which has placed more than 5,000 former servicemembers in education since 1994 — will visit Pacific bases and brief servicemembers and their spouses beginning this week.

In addition to information about Troops to Teachers, they'll be debuting a pilot program, Spouses to Teachers.

The first briefing is scheduled for Monday at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, with the teams winding through installations on mainland Japan, South Korea and Okinawa over the next three weeks.

"A lot of servicemembers may not think about teaching as a career once they leave the military, but day to day in the military, they're using the same skills that teachers need," said William McAleer, the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) Far East adviser.

"On a daily basis, they already manage, instruct, inspire and lead, and those are the same tools successful teachers need. Of course, not everybody can or should be a teacher, but a lot of servicemembers already have the same skills they'd need in the classroom."

McAleer will travel with the information teams, as will representatives from several states who participate in Troops to Teachers.

The morning sessions will focus on overview information for the program, with the afternoons focused on filling out applications and attending one-on-one meetings with state experts to review education transcripts, which participants are encouraged to bring with them.

Troops to Teachers, established by the Pentagon in 1994 but transferred to the Department of Education in 1999, aims to help eligible military personnel transition to careers as public school teachers in "high-need" schools.

The program provides both financial assistance to cover teach-

Pacific schedule

The Troops to Teachers teams will hold sessions on the following schedule:

Japan

■ Monday: Yokosuka Naval Base, Fleet Activities Center, 8:30 a.m.

■ Tuesday: Camp Zama, Base education center, 8:30 a.m.

■ Wednesday: Yokota Air Base, Building 316, 8:30 a.m.

■ Thursday: Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station, Sakura Theater, 8:30 a.m.

Korea

■ Oct. 11: Osan Air Base, Officers Club, 9 a.m. Oct. 12: Camp Henry, education center, 8:30 a.m.

■ Oct. 14: Camp Red Cloud, education center, 8:30 a.m.

■ Oct. 15: Yongsan Garrison, Moyer Recreation Center, 8:30 a.m.

Okinawa

■ Oct. 18: Kadena Air Base, Kadena High School auditorium, 9 a.m.

■ Oct. 19: Camp Courtney, base chapel, 8:30 a.m.

er certification costs and bonuses for teaching in schools that serve high percentages of low-income families.

In return, participants agree to teach for at least three years in the program, McAleer said.

This year's briefings feature information on Spouses to Teachers, a pilot program in six states: California, Florida, Colorado, Georgia, Texas and Virginia.

"It's no coincidence the pilot states have large military populations," McAleer said.

The Spouses to Teachers briefings will focus on state teaching certification requirements, routes to certification, employment potential and job searches, officials said.

In addition to spouses of active-duty servicemembers, spouses of Reserve, National Guard and Individual Ready Reserve members recalled to active duty are eligible.

For more info, visit www.proudtoserveagain.com or www.spousetoteachers.org.

E-mail Joseph Giordono at: giordono@pstrsipes.osd.mil

MILITARY UPDATE

Tom Philpott

Congress ends tax break quirk

Combat-zone exemptions that hurt military families eliminated by bill

Congress has passed legislation to end a quirky reduction in tax breaks that hits lower-income military families when their servicemembers are assigned to Iraq, Afghanistan or other combat areas.

Relief from the tax break glitch was part of the Working Families Tax Relief Act of 2004, approved Sept. 23 and sent to the White House. It applies only to tax years 2004 and 2005, but it might be extended.

Last year, up to 10,000 servicemembers saw combat-zone tax exemptions lower their family income, for some by thousands of dollars. The combat-zone exemptions did so by lowering reported income enough that families lost eligibility for the more valuable Earned Income Tax Credit.

Victims of this tax break "inversion," as a Defense official called it, typically are lower-grade enlisted members or junior officers who are married with children, serve at least seven months in a combat zone, and have little or no other family income.

What they lose is the EITC, a refundable credit for low-income workers approved in 1975 to offset the burden of Social Security

taxes and to provide an incentive to work. Income thresholds to qualify for EITC vary by family size. For example, if taxable income must fall below \$30,338 (or \$31,338 filing jointly), but they also must have some taxable income.

EITC eligibility can mean refundable tax credits which put extra cash in pockets. The maximum credit in 2003 was \$4,204 for a worker with two or more children, \$2,547 with one child and \$382 for a childless taxpayer. It's a more valuable tax benefit than combat tax exclusion for lower-income families who pay little or no taxes any way. In combat areas, enlisted and warrant officer income is tax exempt. Officer earnings are, too, but only the first \$6,315.90 each month in 2004.

Sens. Mark Pryor, D-Ark., and Montanar's Max Baucus, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Finance Committee, co-sponsored the original bill to protect EITC eligibility. Now part of the new tax law, it will allow members, if they choose, to have combat zone income count toward EITC eligibility.

Choice, here, is important be-

cause not all members lose valuable tax breaks. Some senior enlisted members and even senior officers gain income from the way combat-zone exemptions and the EITC interact. Tax-break windfalls occur if they serve only part of a year in a combat zone, leaving just enough taxable income to qualify for EITC.

Financial protection

The House Financial Services Committee unanimously approved Sept. 29 and sent for floor vote the Military Personnel Financial Services Protection Act (HR 5011), a bill introduced by Rep. Max Burns, R-Ga., to end the sale of high-priced securities and life insurance products to service people.

Specifically banned would be "contractual plan mutual funds" like the Systematic Investment Plan sold to more than 300,000 military personnel by First Commercial Financial Planning, Inc., of Fort Worth, Texas. These investment options "disappeared from the civilian market 20 years ago," Burns said, but continue to be "pawned off on unsuspecting young service people as part of 'approved' savings and insurance plans."

Sales commissions the first year are 50 percent of the amount invested. Most mutual fund investments have fees of 6 percent or less.

In July, The New York Times published a series of articles detailing abuses of military personnel by investment companies and insurers. The reporting, and on-going investigations by federal and state agencies, led to a September hearing of a House Financial Services subcommittee.

While the Burns bill would end the sale of contractual plan mutual funds, it would not invalidate existing plans.

HR 5011 also would mandate that state insurance laws be enforced on military property, eliminating a haven for unscrupulous agents to sell overpriced insurance products as investments to service people.

There is no companion bill in the Senate, making passage this year uncertain. Sen. Richard C. Shelby, R-Ala., Banking Committee chairman, has asked the Government Accountability Office to study the issue.

To comment, write Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, VA 20120-1111, e-mail milupdate@aol.com or visit www.militaryupdate.com

Thunderbirds:
Set to take
to the skies

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

More than half of the Pacific team is made up of aircraft maintainers, who painstakingly examine the Thunderbirds' show jets for any potential malfunction and keep their exteriors shiny and polished. Crew chiefs are assigned to a specific aircraft and ultimately are responsible for everything that happens to their F-16.

An assistant crew chief, Staff Sgt. Marisa Tui helps the lead maintainer of jet No. 3 with all maintenance issues — from changing oil to checking tire pressure. The only female maintainer on the Pacific trip also is a structural maintenance specialist, checking all the show fighters for cracks.

It's a job she loves.

"I had seen a show and it gave me goosebumps," she said when asked why she applied for a Thunderbird maintainer slot. "I was like 'Wow, I want to do that.'"

"Though maintainers say the F-16s require a lot of upkeep, the Thunderbirds in their 51-year history never have had to cancel a show due to a maintenance problem, a streak the current crew says they're determined to uphold.

"We have the best maintainers in the Air Force," said Staff Sgt. Mat Ratcliff, assistant crew chief for jet No. 6. "We're not going to let that happen on our watch."

E-mail Jennifer H. Swan at: swan@stripsides.mil

Yokota hot water outages

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — West side housing area residents can expect hot water outages this month while the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers works on steam pipes. The following buildings will be affected:

■ Monday: Buildings 1213, 1214, 1247, 1249, 1285, 1290-1297, 1299, 1299C, 3301-3310, 3321-3323.

■ Tuesday: Buildings 1220, 1255, 3000-3002, 3006, 3048, 3219, 3220, 3245, 3249, 3262, 3276-3279, 3281, 3284-3287, 3289-3296.

■ Oct. 12: Buildings 3003-3005, 3050-3052, 3056-3078.

Call DSN 225-7415 for more information.

From staff reports

Yokota Baptist Church

Pastor Warren Webster

日本語訳もあります YBC services are interpreted in Japanese
REACHING THE MILITARY AND JAPAN, ONE PERSON AT A TIME

Yokota Christian Academy	M-F	Friday	
Sunday		Awana Club	1900
Early Service	0830	Monthly	
Sunday School	1000	Mens Prayer Breakfast	1st Sat
Morning Service	1100	Ladies Meeting	1st Sat
Evening Service	1800		
Monday			
Faith Bible Institute	1830		
Tuesday			
Soul Winning & Visitation	1830		
Wednesday			
Evening Service & Prayer Mtg	1900		
Patch & Pee Wee Clubs	1900		

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At Fussa Gate: Left on 16 to light. Turn right. Take next left. Church on left.

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2004 VOTING MESSAGE

In this election year, you — our men and women in uniform — are stationed around the globe serving our Nation and defending democracy. We have both the responsibility and the privilege to participate in our democracy by exercising our fundamental right to vote. I encourage every eligible man and woman in uniform, as well as all family members of voting age, to join in the democratic process and cast your ballots. You will have the opportunity to vote, either in person or through absentee ballots, in primary, special run-off and general elections, no matter where you are stationed or what operation you are participating in. Recent elections have demonstrated the importance of every absentee ballot. Your vote does count!

The 2004 elections will determine our choice for president and vice-president, 54 senators, the entire House of Representatives, and 13 governors, as well as thousands of local officials. I urge each of you to participate, starting with the primaries already underway and continuing through the general election on November 2nd.

Most of you will be using the absentee voting process, which has never been easier than it is today. For those of us in the Armed Forces and our family members, starting the process is as easy as going out and mailing the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA). The FPCA is available from your Unit Voting Assistance Office, who can also assist you with your state procedures.

As members of the Armed Forces, we each have a responsibility to take part in determining our Nation's leadership.

IT'S YOUR FUTURE. VOTE FOR IT!

Richard D. Myers
RICHARD D. MYERS
Chairman
of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Essay contest

Tuesday is the deadline for the Hispanic Heritage Month Essay Contest at Camp Zama, Japan. Submit essays at Zama American High School, Arima Elementary School or Zama's library. The contest is open to students in grades 1-12. Essays will be judged within three age categories. Winners will be announced at the Oct. 15 heritage month observance at the community club. Call DSN 263-4212 for more information.

Highway headaches

TOKYO — Drivers traveling on Chuo and Shuto expressways can expect heavy traffic in the next couple of weeks. Construction is scheduled on the expressways between Yokota Air Base and central Tokyo from midnight Monday until Oct. 15, according to the Japan Highway Public Corp. The construction will not be conducted on the weekends.

One of the Chuo's two lanes will close between Kokuritsu Fuchu and Hatagaya exits, and many exits and entrances will be closed.

Exits and entrances that will be closed in the week of Oct. 4 are Takaoka entrance, Eifuku exit and entrance on the inbound and Hatsu-dai entrance and Eifuku entrance and exit on the outbound road. Takaoka entrance and Eifuku entrance inbound and Hatsu-dai entrance, Eifuku entrance and Takaoka exit will be closed on the outbound during the week of Oct. 12.

Drivers can expect delays as long as two hours and 50 minutes inbound from 5 to 7 p.m., and delays of two hours and 40 minutes outbound around 11 a.m.

From staff reports

Iraq communication challenging

Commanders cite difficulties framing global message

BY CHARLIE COON

Stars and Stripes

HEIDELBERG, Germany

The U.S.-led military coalition in Iraq defeated Saddam Hussein's conventional forces in spring 2003. But the military leaders' ability to engage in communication needed to win the peace left a lot of room for improvement, according to the coalition's former military commander.

"Strategic communication was a challenge for us from the very beginning, and we struggled with it through the entire time I was there," Lt. Gen. Ricardo S. Sanchez said Thursday during the final day of Land Combat Expo 2004.

Sanchez, who as commander of Combined Joint Task Force-7 directed the multinational force, said that anyone with a stake in Operation Iraqi Freedom needed to be kept up to speed, and that did not always happen.

"It is literally the world [as an audience]," Sanchez said.

"You've got a combined operation of 36 countries. If you've got

a few political problems or a few strategic problems, you've got to communicate with that entire world what is going on in [Iraq]," he said. "You've got to communicate with each one of the national audiences, not just your own."

Sanchez was one of a number of top generals at the expo who talked about their experiences.

Lt. Gen. William S. Wallace, former commander of V Corps, which spearheaded the defeat of Saddam's army and evicted his regime from Baghdad, said Wednesday that he wished the coalition had more quickly recognized the shift in power from Saddam's regime to the Iraqi people.

The coalition, if it did, might have done a better job co-opting more Iraqis sooner into playing a role in the reconstruction of their country.

Sanchez, the current V Corps commander, called his comments "observations" rather than "lessons learned," saying that time was needed for the U.S. military to fully evaluate what it had learned.

The nations that made up the coalition made military contribu-

tions ranging from one person to several thousand troops, he said.

But no matter how small the contribution, each nation's people needed to be placated.

Inside of Iraq, there was an array of audiences, from individual U.S. troops to whole regions of the country, experiencing different levels of satisfaction and anxiety. "You have to break that [message] down, you have to communicate in the theater of operations that you're in," Sanchez said.

"You have to communicate effectively to the region and to the country and then to the individual Iraqi who is out there."

"You have to be able to tell him what lies ahead in his future and what you are doing for him, and how he can help."

"Then you have to communicate with your own force so your soldiers understand where we're headed and how we're doing," Sanchez said.

"It's critical to success."

Sanchez called dealing with reporters and other media a "necessary evil." Sometimes they could be your friend, Sanchez said, and sometimes your foe. He called it the "CNN factor."



Lt. Gen. Ricardo S. Sanchez

But giving interviews was a commander's job, from top brass down to junior lieutenants, Sanchez said. "You have to embrace [the media]," he said.

"You have to be good at it, have to understand the messages you want to communicate, and understand the dangers of getting out of your lane. "Because it can have an impact very, very rapidly all the way up to the national level, and I had to struggle with that at times."

E-mail Charlie Coon at: cooncc@mail.strips.osd.mil

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Yokota + NFL Football = Ro the Rally
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Come to the Enlisted Club and see the game on our Big Screen TV, eat at our free buffet, order 10¢ Buffalo Wings and take advantage of our drink specials. Each visit is your chance to win tickets to Atlanta at Tampa Bay, Super Bowl, or the Pro Bowl, plus Plasma TVs and X-Box video game systems.



New tape allegedly by bin Laden aide aired

BY TAREK AL-ISSAWI

The Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — An audio tape purportedly released by Osama bin Laden's deputy calls for attacks on U.S. and British interests everywhere, according to a broadcast Friday by Al-Jazeera television.

The Arab station said the speaker on the tape was Ayman al-Zawahiri, an Egyptian-born surgeon and the closest aide to the al-Qaida terrorist group leader. The U.S. government has offered up to \$25 million for information leading to his killing or capture.

It was not immediately possible to verify the authenticity of the recording or determine when it was taped. In Washington, a U.S. official said the CIA was aware of the tape and was looking at it.

The tape emerged one day after a campaign debate between President Bush and Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., discussed the U.S. war on terror and the search for bin Laden.

The voice sounded like past recordings of al-Zawahiri, but it also made an unusual reference to the possibility that al-Qaida's top leaders were not invincible.

"You, youth of Islam, this is our

message," he said. "If we die or are detained, continue the path after us, and don't betray God and his prophet, and don't knowingly betray the trust."

The speaker's words came more quickly and energetically, sounding generally more upbeat than previous tapes believed to be from al-Zawahiri.

In addition to the United States and Britain, the speaker singled out Australia, France, Poland, Norway, South Korea and Japan, saying their "interests ... are spread everywhere."

"We must not wait more ... or we will be devoured one country

after the other," the speaker said. "The youth must not wait for anyone and must begin resisting from now, and take experience and lessons from Iraq and Afghanistan and Chechnya."

He also said the countries cited had given Israel the "means of survival."

The speaker also called for "learned and experienced people" to organize what he called a "leadership" to coordinate the stand up to the crusader campaign like the holy warriors organized their affairs in Afghanistan, Chechnya or Palestine.

In references apparently to the

Russian government, Israel, Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority and the U.S.-backed Afghan government, the speaker continued to say the holy warriors had organized "despite the will of the occupier and that of the traitor national governments."

An Al-Jazeera producer said the tape was "supposedly received today," by usual means, which he refused to discuss. The station showed almost four minutes in two clips of a longer recording and, as usual, was not planning to broadcast the tape in full.

Station officials would not comment on the contents of unaired segments.

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U.S., Iraqi forces launch major offensive

One U.S. soldier dead; more than 100 insurgents killed in Samarra

By ZIDAN KHALAF

The Associated Press

SAMARRA, Iraq — U.S. and Iraqi forces battled their way into the heart of one of Iraq's key insurgency strongholds Friday in the first of a series of promised major offensives to regain control of areas lost to the rebels. More than 100 insurgents were killed and 37 captured in the fighting, an Iraqi minister said.

Backed by warplanes and tanks, some 5,000 troops swept in to seize the city hall, the main mosque and other key sites, leaving only pockets of rebel resistance after more than 12 hours of combat, according to the U.S. military and Iraqi authorities.

The attack against Samarra,

60 miles north of Baghdad, appeared to trumpet the launch of major military operations to wrest other areas of the country from insurgents ahead of general elections in January. It is feared that inability to stage balloting in cities such as Samarra would severely mar, or even invalidate, election results.

Also Friday, U.S. warplanes and tanks attacked the vast Baghdad slum of Sadr City, killing 12 Iraqis and wounding 11 others, a hospital director said. The military said only one armed rebel was killed.

Qasim Dowoud, minister of state for national security, said more than 100 insurgents were killed in the fighting and 37 others

were captured, including members of the fallen Saddam Hussein regime. No foreign Arab fighters were taken captive, he said.

One American soldier was killed and four were wounded, while an AH-64 Cobra helicopter was hit by small arms fire but was able to land safely at a coalition base near Samarra, the U.S. military said.

The operation involved about 3,000 soldiers of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division along with 2,000 members of the Iraqi army and Iraqi National Guard.

The situation in Samarra, a city of 250,000 people, appeared calm late Friday except for American snipers on rooftops firing

at anybody appearing in the streets below.

U.S. and Iraqi forces blocked the roads into the city to prevent insurgents moving in and out, Maj. Neal O'Brien, spokesman for the 1st Infantry Division, said.

The offensive came in response to "repeated and unprovoked attacks by anti-Iraqi forces" against Iraqi and coalition forces, the military said. Its aim was to "facilitate orderly government processes, kill or capture anti-Iraqi forces and set the conditions to proceed with infrastructure and quality of life improvements."

Offering a road map to a coming offensive, U.S. Secretary of

State Colin Powell last week said the military will likely take the Sunni Triangle cities of Ramadi and Samarra before attempting to restore order in nearby Fallujah, which he called "the toughest one."

Also on the "hit list" of U.S. military commanders is the Baghdad slum of Sadr City, scene of almost daily clashes and U.S. airstrikes against armed followers of radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

During the Samarra push, soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division rescued a kidnapped Turkish construction worker who was being held in the city.

Later, an unofficial French negotiator told a radio station that two journalists who have been held hostage in Iraq for more than a month could be released within hours.

In the southern city of Kufa, meanwhile, security forces prevented hundreds of Shiite Muslim supporters of al-Sadr from entering a major mosque for Friday prayers — the first such action since Saddam's fall last year.

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IN THE WORLD



During a speech commemorating the 56th anniversary of South Korea's army, President Roh Moo-hyun said he will work to build a stronger defense now that the number of U.S. troops on the Korean Peninsula will be reduced.

Roh promises a stronger military

South Korea leader says ties with U.S. will remain strong

The Associated Press

GYEONGDAE, South Korea — President Roh Moo-hyun said in an Army Day speech Friday that South Korea will build a stronger defense, a key theme of his tenure now that Washington is planning a major reduction in U.S. troops on the Korean Peninsula.

Roh also said the generation-old alliance between South Korea and the United States, a legacy of the 1950-53 Korean War, will remain strong amid concern over North Korea's suspected development of nuclear weapons. Several rounds of multilateral talks on the North's nuclear activities have yielded little progress, though South Korea says dialogue is the only way to resolve the problem.

"We need to focus our efforts on building a self-defense capability," Roh said at a commemoration of the 56th anniversary of the foundation of the army. The event was held at army headquarters in Gyeongdae, south of Seoul.

The United States plans to redeploy 12,500 troops away from South Korea as part of Pentagon plans for a worldwide realignment of American forces that President Bush has said would help the United States better respond to today's threats.

That redeployment includes some 3,600 U.S. troops who have been left South Korea and are now stationed in Iraq. U.S. officials have previously said all the reassigned troops would depart by the end of 2005, bringing the

total remaining to about 24,500. But that timeline is now under discussion.

"If we continue to reinforce our military capability, we will eventually have a deterrence against North Korea," Roh said. South Korea's security forces number more than 650,000. North Korea is believed to have more than 1 million, though their conventional forces lack fuel and train with decrepit equipment.

"The South Korea-U.S. alliance will continue to play a role in maintaining peace and stability in Northeast Asia as well as on the Korean Peninsula," the president said. Roh also said cooperation with Japan, Russia and China will improve South Korea's defense.

After a vigorous public debate, South Korea this year dispatched 3,000 troops to Iraq, making it the third-largest partner in the U.S.-led coalition. Britain is No. 2.

"We have overcome such difficult situations in our national defense, such as the Iraq troop dispatch, the realignment of U.S. troops in Korea and the North Korea nuclear crisis," Roh said.

By HAWON JUNG
The Associated Press

SEOUL — A South Korean government panel expressed concern about U.S. legislation aimed at improving human rights in North Korea, saying the North could view the measure as a tool to topple its communist government.

The U.S. Senate passed the North Korea Human Rights Act on Wednesday to promote rights in the North, where a dictatorship has ruled a hunger-stricken populace for over half a century with no tolerance for dissent.

The legislation requires the U.S. State Department to spend millions of dollars in aid for groups seeking to improve rights in the North, as well as grants for more U.S.-funded radio broadcasts into the isolated nation.

The South's National Human Rights Commission, a government organization, said in a report Thursday that the U.S. bill contains notions that would infuriate the North, which has not made any public comment on the measure.

The bill advocates the reunification of Korea under a "democratic system of government."

"This could raise a suspicion that the bill is seeking to topple the North's regime," the South Korean report said.

The human rights bill opens the way for possible U.S. government support for activists who help North Koreans flee their communist homeland and defect to South Korea. It also allows some North Korean defectors to apply for U.S. refugee status.


The bill promotes democracy,

rule of law and a market economy, ideas that go "against the very nature of the North Korean regime," said Paik Hak-soon, a senior research fellow at South Korea's Sejong Institute.

"It would only make the North take a more confrontational posture," he said.

Since the North Korea bill passed the U.S. House in July, it has drawn criticism from South Korean civic groups and lawmakers who feared the legislation would provoke the North, stalling talks between the two Koreas as well as nuclear negotiations.

On Thursday, Lee Boo-young, chairman of South Korea's liberal ruling Uri Party, warned that the human rights act could move the North further away from opening up. However, the opposition Grand National Party said it supported the U.S. legislation.



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Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi had a busy week last week, reshuffling his Cabinet, dealing with Japanese military strike policy and receiving criticism over his handling of the North Korean abductions.

Japan considers going on offense

Report: Leaders mull move to allow pre-emption to be a military option

By KOZO MIZOGUCHI
The Associated Press

TOKYO — An official panel of defense experts has urged Japan's government to let the military strike an enemy before being attacked — a policy change that would starkly counter Tokyo's long-standing ban on using troops in overseas combat — a media report said.

The Defense Agency panel recommended that Japan stock missiles that have a range of several hundred miles and could be launched from Japanese territory or ships, Kyodo News agency said.

An official from the Defense Agency, which draws up military policy and carries out deployments, refused to confirm Thursday's report.

But a Cabinet Office spokesman, who refused to be identified, said a different government panel would formally recommend this week that Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi adopt an offensive military strategy, ahead of a broad security

review expected to be completed by December.

Japan's military, the Self-Defense Forces, was formed in 1954 and has one of the largest budgets of any armed forces in the world. However, Japan's constitution bans the military from using force to resolve disputes.

The government has long interpreted the constitution to mean Tokyo can't send soldiers to war unless it attacked.

Recently, Koizumi has broadened the military's mandate and sent troops on overseas peacekeeping missions to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Kyodo said the panel's recommendations stem from fear of a North Korean attack. The suggestions are meant to soften potential objections to a missile defense system being jointly developed by Japan and the United States, Kyodo said.

Critics worry that letting Japan wage war overseas might trigger a resurgence of earlier militarism.

Koizumi in hot water over abductions

Japanese public angered after N. Korean documents raise doubt about fates

By BRUCE WALLACE
Los Angeles Times

TOKYO — Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi is struggling to calm Japan's mercurial relations with North Korea amid a rising clamor about the fate of Japanese civilians kidnapped by North Korean agents during the Cold War. The Japanese mood darkened last week after Pyongyang acknowledged its explanation for the death of Megumi Yokota, who was kidnapped in 1977 when she was 13, was wrong. North Korea admits it has found records showing Yokota was hospitalized twice in 1993, several months after the date her death certificate says she committed suicide.

"This doesn't mean she is alive, but the fresh information means we need to know what happened after 1993," said Shigeru Yokota, her 71-year-old father.

Yokota said he despairs at finding out what happened to his daughter, one of eight Japanese civilians snatched and brought to North Korea. Pyongyang insists all have died.

The Japanese put the number of disappeared at at least 10 and possibly dozens more. Stoked by sympathy for the victims' families, the country is seething over what they call North Korean gamesmanship in refusing to come clean.

Some of the Japanese anger is directed at Koizumi, whom many accuse of coddling Pyongyang in order to pursue his goal of normalizing relations between the countries. Their suspicions deepened last week with the sudden resignation of Kyoko Nakayama, 64, the prime minister's top adviser on the abduction issue, whose hard-line approach allowed Koizumi to insist he was committed to the families' cause.

Nakayama told reporters she quit because she had "already accomplished my given role." But many here believe she was forced out when Koizumi reorganized his government on Monday and gave powerful roles to advisers known to favor improving ties with North Korea.

The move was made to address

a growing sense among many in the prime minister's circle that the danger from North Korea's nuclear weapons program had become hostage to public hysteria over the abductees.

Koizumi has made no secret of his goal to end the Cold War hanging over frosty relations with Pyongyang.

The revelation of a faked death certificate has infuriated the Japanese public and media, which overwhelmingly indicated they want Koizumi to settle the issue of the abductees before extending any official hug to North Korea. They are demanding Koizumi take a tougher line by threatening Pyongyang with economic sanctions unless it meets a deadline for full disclosure.

Those emotions make it awkward for Koizumi to set the abduction issue aside. Pyongyang's secrecy allows the families of other long-missing Japanese citizens to contend that their loved ones must also be in North Korea, possibly even alive. "What we really want to know is what she's doing now," Yokota says about his daughter.

Critics worry that letting Japan wage war overseas might trigger a resurgence of its earlier militarism.

that Japan stock missiles that have a range of several hundred miles and could be launched from Japanese territory or ships, Kyodo News agency said.

Bomb kills 25 in Pakistan suicide attack

SIALKOT, Pakistan — A suicide attacker detonated a huge bomb inside a crowded Shiite Muslim mosque in eastern Pakistan during Friday prayers, killing at least 25 people and injuring dozens, officials said.

Experts defused a second 11-pound bomb outside the same mosque shortly afterward in this city about 145 miles southeast of Islamabad, police said.

Police said hundreds of people were inside the Zainabia mosque at the time of the blast, which left body parts scattered inside.

Meari death toll rises to 22 in Japan

TOKYO — The death toll from Tropical Storm Meari's path of destruction across Japan rose to 22 on Friday after search teams found three more victims, including a 70-year-old farmer, police said.

Meari caused floods, triggered deadly landslides and forced about 10,000 people to flee their homes for shelters. Five people were missing and at least 80 others were injured.

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IN THE STATES

Bush, Kerry square off over Iraq

First presidential debate lays out candidates' differences on foreign policy

BY TERENCE HUNT

The Associated Press

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — President Bush and Sen. John Kerry rushed back to the campaign trail Friday to try to convince voters they had won the debate over foreign policy and to renew the argument over whether going to war in Iraq had made the nation safer.

Three post-debate polls suggested voters who watched the policy-driven confrontation Thursday night were impressed by Kerry.

Most of those surveyed said he did better than Bush.

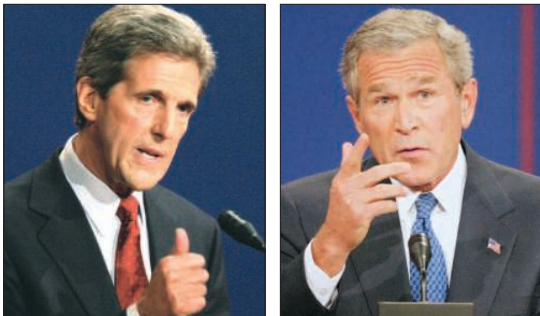
Kerry's running mate, Sen. John Edwards, said he told Kerry after the debate that "I think people saw the next commander in chief," and he criticized Bush for failing to acknowledge problems in Iraq.

Bush, however, believed he had effectively spelled out the strategy and shown the resolve with which he is fighting the war on terror, White House communications director Dan Bartlett said.

"I think he spoke from the heart, spoke with strength about the necessity for our country to fight the terrorists over who we don't have to face them here at home," Bartlett told ABC. "He had a good time last night."

Sen. John McCain, the Arizona Republican who initially advised Bush on how to debate Kerry, told reporters the debate was probably Kerry's "brightest moment" in the last six weeks.

Kerry's campaign prepared a TV ad that featured newspaper



AP photos

Left: Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts answers a question Thursday during the first 2004 presidential debate at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla.

Right: President Bush speaks during the debate, which focused on foreign affairs and homeland security.

headlines from Friday praising the Democrat's performance. The Democratic National Committee was rolling out a Web video showing clips of Bush appearing frustrated at the debate.

From the first question, Kerry went on the offensive, accusing Bush of leaving U.S. alliances around the world "in shatters" and later calling Kerry's "incredible mess."

Bush said Kerry had voted to authorize the war he now criticizes. "That's not how a commander

More debate coverage on Page 14

in chief acts," Bush said.

Kerry summed up Bush's strategy for Iraq as "more of the same" and added: "This president has made, I regret to say, a colossal error of judgment. And judgment is what we look for in the president of the United States of America."

Bush acknowledged that not every American agrees with the

decisions he's made. "But people know where I stand," Bush said, suggesting they don't know where Kerry stands. "People out there listening know what I believe."

From Florida, Bush was heading out Friday to rallies in Pennsylvania and New Hampshire, two key battleground states. Kerry was spending the day campaigning in Florida, where the presidential race was decided in 2000.

Bush appeared irritated when Kerry leveled some of his charges, scowling at times and looking away in apparent disgust at others.

Kerry often took notes when the president spoke. The television networks offered a split screen to viewers so they could see both men at the same time and watch their reactions. Trying to persuade voters that he is tough enough to be commander in chief, Kerry said, "I believe in being strong and resolute and determined. And I will hunt down and kill the terrorists, wherever they are." He said that Bush, in invading Iraq, lost sight of the goal of capturing terrorist leader Osama bin Laden.

But Bush insisted that "the world is safer without Saddam Hussein." He called Iraq "a central part in the war on terror" and said 75 percent of bin Laden's leadership had been brought to justice.

Trying to turn Kerry's criticism against him, Bush said, "I understand what it means to be the commander in chief. And if I were to ever say, 'This is the wrong war at the wrong time at the wrong place,' the troops would wonder, 'How can I follow this guy?'"

While Iraq was the dominant issue in the debate, there were no-

Candidates share lighter family moment during debate

Los Angeles Times

For a moment, they were just two dads, commiserating about the challenges of raising daughters.

Toward the end of the first presidential debate Thursday, moderator Jim Lehrer gave George W. Bush an opening to go after John F. Kerry's character. Instead, his question sparked a rare personal moment between the rivals on a night otherwise dominated by aloof exchanges.

Bush thanked his challenger for asking about his daughters, Alexandra, 31, and Vanessa, 27, had shown his 22-year-old twin daughters, Jennifer and Barbara.

"I admire the fact that he is a great dad," said the president.

"[I] appreciate the fact that his daughters have been so kind to my daughters and what has been a pretty hard experience for, I guess, young people. And he's dad out there campaigning."

Kerry, departing momentarily from his stern presidential demeanor, said: "I appreciate enormously the personal comments the president just made, and I share them with him."

"I think only if you've — if he's doing this — and he's done it more than I have in terms of the presidency — can you begin to get a sense of what it means to your families, and it's tough."

"His daughters — I've watched them," Kerry added. "I've chuckled a few times at some of their comments."

Bush's daughters raised eyebrows this summer with an irreverent speech at the Republican Convention.

In July, Jenna drew headlines when she stuck her tongue out at the national press corps while campaigning with her father.

"In trying to put a leash on them," the president joked Thursday night.

"Well, I don't know," Kerry replied. "We earned not to do that, Mr. President."

"That's right," Bush said, as both men laughed.

In their own words

The Associated Press

Excerpts from Thursday's presidential debate at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla.:

On invading Iraq

■ **President Bush:** "I believe I'm going to win, because the American people know I know how to lead. I've shown the American people I know how to lead. I have — I understand everybody in this country doesn't agree with the decisions I've made. And I made some tough decisions. But people know where I stand."

■ **Sen. John Kerry:** "I believe in being strong and resolute and determined. And I will hunt down and kill the terrorists, wherever they are. But we also have to be smart. And smart means not diverting your attention from the real war on terror in Afghanistan against Osama bin Laden and taking if off to Iraq."

■ **Bush:** "My opponent looked at the same intelligence I looked at and declared in 2002 that Saddam Hussein was a grave threat. He also said in December of 2003 that anyone who doubts that the world is safer without Saddam Hussein does not have the judgment to be president. I agree with him. The world is better off without Saddam Hussein."

■ **Sen. John Kerry:** "This president has made, I regret to say, a colossal error of judgment. And judgment is what we look for in the president of the United States of America."

On the future of war in Iraq

■ **Bush:** "My opponent says help is on the way, but what kind of message does it say to our troops in harm's way, 'Wrong war, wrong place, wrong time? Not a message a commander in chief gives, or this is a great diversion."

As well, help is on the way, but it's certainly hard to tell it when he voted against the \$87 billion supplemental to provide equipment for our troops, and then said he actually did vote for it before he voted against it."

■ **Kerry:** "Well, you know, when I talked about the \$87 billion, I made a mistake in how I talk about the war. But the president made a mistake in invading Iraq. Which is worse? I believe that when you know something's going wrong, you make it right. That's what I learned in Vietnam."

■ **Bush:** "I understand how hard it is to commit troops. Never wanting to commit troops. When I was running — when we had the debate in 2000, never dream I'd be doing that. But the enemy attacked us ... and I have a solemn duty to protect the American people, to do everything I can to protect us."

"But a president must always be willing to use troops. It must — a last resort."

■ **Kerry:** "The president just said something extraordinarily revealing and frankly very important in this debate. In answer to your question about Iraq and sending people into Iraq, he just said, 'The enemy attacked us.' Saddam Hussein didn't attack us. Osama bin Laden attacked us. Al-Qaida attacked us."

tial differences on North Korea and Iran, two nations suspected of pursuing nuclear weapons programs. Kerry urged that the United States hold direct bilateral talks with North Korea, but Bush called Kerry's proposal "a big mistake" that would crush multinational talks and remove pressure from China on North Korea.



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Sen. John Kerry



"I will create a Small Business Opportunity fund, expand loan and equity for small businesses, increase the federal government's venture capital investments and expand loan programs to help more small businesses get off the ground. I will increase the share of federal contracts for small businesses and ensure that minority-owned businesses get a fair share, use tax credits to cut

the cost of energy and reduce the cost of health care by two-thirds, and eliminate capital gains taxes for long-term investment in small businesses. And I will help small businesses offer retirement plans by using tax credits to help offset the startup costs of pension plans. I will have a new jobs tax credit to create an employer's share of payroll taxes for net new jobs created by small businesses in 2005 and 2006."

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AP

Not quite the facts, ma'am

With little time for rebuttal, some data misrepresented

BY CALVIN WOODWARD

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — John Kerry used suspect accounting in sizing up the cost of the Iraq war and President Bush got his opponent's position wrong on each other down as many pages as possible in their first debate.

Sometimes, one candidate had a chance to take on the awkward claim of the other, as when Bush suggested he went to war in Iraq because "the enemy attacked us" and Kerry pointed out Saddam Hussein did no such thing.

Often, wrongful assertions or oversimplifications went unanswered, as when Kerry attacked Bush for spending too little on protecting the country from terrorism and declared "That's why they had to close down the subway in New York when the Republican convention was there." The subway didn't close; some exits near the convention did.

"The format made it difficult for the candidates to rebut some distortions by their opponents," said Kathleen Hall Jamieson, director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania.

Bush, twice during Thursday's debate, suggested al-Qaida is a vastly diminished terrorist force at the top, saying at one point that "75 percent of known al-Qaida leaders have been brought to justice," and at another, Osama bin Laden is "isolated — 75 percent of his people have been brought to justice."

But al-Qaida is still considered a mortal danger in part because it refills its ranks and leadership. The president was actually referring to deaths or arrests

of operatives who powered al-Qaida when it mounted the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, not those behind the organization today. Earlier this year, the CIA estimated two-thirds of those leaders were gone.

Bush also mischaracterized Kerry's position on withdrawing troops from Iraq: "My opponent on one time said, well, get me elected, I'll have them out of there in six months."

In fact, Kerry's position has been that he would hope to begin a withdrawal in six months, not complete it. His aim would be to finish the withdrawal in four years if conditions allowed.

Kerry stretched in accusing Bush of spending too little on homeland security and too much in giving tax cuts to the rich.

"This president thought it was more important to give the wealthiest people in America a tax cut rather than invest in homeland security," the Massachusetts senator said. "And long before President Bush and I get a tax cut — and that's who gets it — long before we do, I'm going to invest in homeland security."

Bush's tax cuts were across the board, not just for rich people like Kerry and himself. And much of the money Kerry wants to save by raising taxes on the rich is already spoken for; he'd use it for health care and middle-income tax relief.

Kerry, as he often does, said the United States has spent \$200 billion on the Iraq war.

An analysis by Annenberg's FactCheck.org found the true cost to be under \$120 billion so far, and that Kerry reaches his figure by counting money scheduled to be spent next year.

Siobhan McDonough contributed to this report.

Candidates show their differences

BY DAN BALZ

The Washington Post

ANALYSIS

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — It was no surprise that Iraq dominated the first debate between President Bush and Democratic challenger John Kerry Thursday night, but rarely have the differences between the two men — and the choices for the country — been stated so clearly and with such passion.

Bush and Kerry differed on almost every aspect of the war in Iraq and on other major foreign policy issues such as North Korea and Iran.

They disagreed over whether former president Saddam Hussein posed a serious threat to the United States at the time Bush took the country to war there. They disagreed on whether it was right to go to war as Bush did. They differed on whether the president has a plan to secure the peace. And they parted company on whether the certitude Bush has displayed since he has advanced U.S. security or weakened it.

If Republicans had hoped Bush could put Kerry away with a strong performance on terrain that has been his strongest suit, they are likely to be disappointed, as the challenger constantly challenged the president to answer for his policies. Both men accomplished many of the goals their advisers had set out and probably reinforced the strong backing each already has among his most committed supporters. But for those voters who remain undecided, Bush and Kerry may have only whetted appetites for their two remaining debates.

This was a debate short of gimmicks, gaffes, canned one-liners. Bush and Kerry gave as good as they got and laid out for the com-

try a choice between Bush's determination to stay on the course he has been following in Iraq or what Kerry said would be a genuine change in policy there.

Bush appeared defensive at the start of the 90-minute debate, and at times the camera caught him scowling or frowning as Kerry relentlessly attacked his record on Iraq. But as the debate continued, he passionately defended the core values of his foreign policy: taking the fight to terrorists and spreading freedom across the planet.

Kerry, who was under great pressure to perform well, repeatedly presented his case that the president has led the country astray and that only a change in leadership can change the equation in Iraq and attract the support of other countries to share more of the burden. He also sought to answer doubts about himself by trying to show that he would be equally resolute in fighting the war on terror, albeit in a different way.

Instant polls judged Kerry the clear winner, but Kerry came into the debate knowing he had to begin to undo the damage the Bush campaign has inflicted on him and reverse public perceptions that Bush is better equipped to deal with Iraq and the battle against terrorism.

Few strategists believed that this first of three presidential debates will, by itself, fundamentally change the shape of the campaign, but for voters wondering whether the choice is as stark as the two sides had been portraying it, the session provided a resounding answer. It sets the stage for what promises to be a ferocious campaign over the next 4½ weeks.

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Cybersecurity chief resigns, citing frustration

By TED BRIDIS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The government's cybersecurity chief has abruptly resigned from the Homeland Security Department amid a concerted campaign by the technology industry and some lawmakers to persuade the Bush administration to give him more authority and money for protection programs.

Amitt Yoran, a former software executive from Symantec Corp., made his resignation effective Thursday as director of the National Cyber Security Division, giving a single day notice of his intention to leave.

Yoran has privately confided to industry colleagues his frustration in recent months over what he considers the department's lack of attention paid to computer security issues, according to lobbyists and others who recounted these conversations on condition they not be identified because the talks were personal.

Yoran said Friday he "felt the timing was right to pursue other opportunities," he said, but immediately who might succeed him even temporarily. Yoran's deputy is Donald A. "Andy" Purdy, a former White House adviser on cybersecurity.

A department spokeswoman, Tasia Scolinos, praised Yoran as a valuable contributor. "Cybersecurity will continue to be a priority of the Department of Homeland Security, and we plan to move quickly to fill the position with someone who has demonstrated leadership in this important field," she said.

As cybersecurity chief, Yoran and his division — with an \$80 million budget and 60 employees — were responsible for carrying out dozens of recommendations in the Bush administration's "National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace," a set of proposals to better protect computer networks.

Yoran's position as a director — at least three bureaucratic steps below Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge — has irritated the technology industry and even some lawmakers. They have pressed unsuccessfully in recent months to elevate Yoran's role to that of an assistant secretary, which could mean broader authority and more money for programs.

Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., complained that Yoran's surprise departure was "yet another setback in the effort to protect our nation's cyber infrastructure," and described the efforts as "in complete disarray." Lofgren and

Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Texas, leaders on the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, have introduced a bill to make Yoran's job an assistant secretary's position.

"It seems almost everyone in this administration who is serious and conscientious and assigned to deal with homeland security, quits out of frustration," said Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.

"Amitt's departure provides a challenge for industry and its relationship with the department on cybersecurity," said Shannon Kellogg, director of government affairs for RSA Security Inc., a leading security firm.

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House rejects amendment to ban gay unions

BY JIM ABRAMS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House followed the Senate in decisively rejecting a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage, ending for this year debate on what has become the dominant issue for the Republican Party's conservative base.

The 227-186 vote in the House on Thursday was well short of the two-thirds majority needed to advance a constitutional amendment, but fulfilled a promise by backers to get lawmakers on the record on the highly sensitive issue in the run-up to Election Day.

"This is only the beginning. I'm telling you," said Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, stressing that the issue was too important to abandon.

"Marriage is the basic unit of society, the very DNA of civilization, and if that civilization is to endure, marriage must be protected," he said.

ed," he said.

Democratic opponents said the motives for holding the vote were tinged more with election-year politics than protecting the nation from gay marriages.

"The purpose in bringing this amendment to the floor today, just four weeks before the election, is to create the fodder for a demagogic political ad that appeals to voters' worst fears and prejudices," said Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland, the House's second-ranked Democrat.

The measure drew the support of 191 Republicans and 36 Democrats. Voting against it were 158 Democrats, 27 Republicans and one independent.

The Constitution has been amended only 27 times, including the 10 amendments in the Bill of Rights, in its history. Amend-

ments must win two-thirds majorities in the House and Senate and be ratified by three-fourths of state legislatures. The Senate rejected the gay marriage amendment in July.

The House in recent days has also taken up legislation dealing with gun rights and the phrase "under God" in the pledge, two other issues of importance to social conservatives.

On Wednesday, the chamber voted 250-171 to overturn a 28-year municipal ban on handgun ownership in the District of Columbia.

Last week it voted to protect the "under God" phrase from federal court challenges. Both bills are unlikely to be considered in the Senate before this session of Congress concludes.

President Bush has urged Congress to take up the gay marriage amendment. Recent surveys in battleground states in the presidential race indicate roughly one-quarter of Bush's supporters say moral or family values are upmost in their minds.

The gay marriage amendment said marriage in the United States "shall consist only of a man and a woman." It also would have required that neither the U.S. Constitution nor any state constitution "shall be construed to require that marriage or the legal incidents thereof be conferred upon any union other than the union of a man and a woman."

DeLay said the need for congressional action was "forced upon us by activist judges trying to legislate from the bench." He noted that under 1996 legislation passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton, marriage is defined as between a man of a woman.

The Senate rejected the gay marriage amendment in July.

DeLay faces more ethics problems

BY SUZANNE GAMBOA
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, admonished by the House ethics committee for acting improperly by trying to persuade a Michigan Republican to change his vote on a Medicare prescription drug bill, could face another investigation by the panel.



DeLay

The committee on Thursday approved an investigative report that serves as "a public admonishment" against DeLay, R-Texas, Rep. Candice Miller, R-Mich., and the lawmaker they were trying to influence, Rep. Nick Smith.

The committee found after its six-month investigation that DeLay and Miller linked a favorable vote by Smith to support of the House candidacy of Smith's son.

The committee still must decide whether to dismiss or appoint an investigative subcommittee to probe a separate three-party complaint against DeLay filed by Rep. Chris Bell, R-Texas.

The complaint alleges DeLay misused his office and federal resources for political purposes related to elections and redistricting in Texas.

The public admonishments issued in the case of Smith's Medicare vote are the lightest punishment the ethics committee can issue when it finds House rules have been violated.

The investigation, by a four-member subcommittee, was triggered when the retiring Smith said that unidentified lawmakers and business interests promised substantial money to his son's congressional campaign if he voted for the Medicare legislation.

He was not persuaded and stuck with his vote against the legislation in the Nov. 22, 2003, tally that ended at 5:51 a.m. The legislation passed the House by five votes.

Associated Press writer Larry Margasak contributed to this report.

China agrees to move to flexible currency

BY MARTIN CRUTSINGER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration, struggling to show progress in attacking this country's soaring trade deficits, won a commitment Friday from China that it would move "firmly and steadily" to a flexible, market-based currency. However, the Chinese offered no firm timetable for how long the transition will take.

Changing China's currency system has been a key demand of the beleaguered manufacturing sec-

tor in the United States. Companies believe China's current policy of linking its currency at a fixed rate to the U.S. dollar has undervalued the Chinese yuan by as much as 40 percent, giving the country a tremendous competitive advantage over U.S. products.

China's commitment came in a joint economic statement issued early Friday following high-level meetings between Treasury Secretary John Snow and Finance Minister Jin Rong.

and Zhou Xiaochuan, head of China's central bank.

The statement said the U.S. side expressed support for continued efforts by China's government to "bring about this goal as rapidly as possible."

The Bush administration has been pushing China for more than a year to allow the value of its currency to be set by financial markets. However, the Chinese insist this cannot be done until the country puts in place a number of economic reforms designed to bolster China's weak banking system and protect it from the volatility that would occur with a floating currency.

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Mount St. Helens a part of 'ring of fire'

BY WILLIAM MCCALL

The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Three or four times every minute, Mount St. Helens shivers. Sometimes the majestic peak even shudders, the trembling beneath reaching a crescendo, a magnitude of 3.3.

Earthquakes that started a week ago Thursday — almost certainly precursors to an eruption — are a reminder that the 8,364-foot sleeping giant is but a part of a volcanic "ring of fire" so vast that it encircles the Pacific Ocean.

Indeed, the other 12 major volcanoes in the Cascade Range of northern California, Oregon and Washington lie within this geological phenomenon as well.

The entire ring — from the tip of South America up through Alaska, Japan and the Kamchatka Peninsula of Russia, down through the Philippines and Indonesia into New Zealand — includes about three-fourths of the world's active and dormant volcanoes, scientists say.

Most of the activity is related to shifting in the vast sections of the Earth's surface known as tectonic plates, continent-size chunks of crust that float atop the planet's molten core.

Mount St. Helens and the Cascades lie near the edge of the Juan de Fuca plate, which is sliding under the North American plate to create a 700-mile long "subduction zone" along the ocean floor that triggers earthquakes and pushes molten rock upwards.

Called magma underground and lava

when it surfaces, the molten rock is forced up through fissures and weak spots in the crust.

Mount St. Helens lies along a particularly weak area of the crust, causing it to be the most active volcano in the Northwest over the centuries, said Jon Major, a U.S. Geological Survey researcher in Vancouver, Wash. Its most spectacular showing was in May 1980, with an eruption that blew the top 1,400 feet off the mountain.

"It sits near the St. Helens seismic zone, an area where the crust is pulled apart a little bit," Major said. "That lets magma push up and explains why it's so active and others are not so active."

For example, Mount Adams lies only about 50 miles east of Mount St. Helens but has not erupted in thousands of years, Major said.

Mount Jefferson, which lies between Mount Hood and the Three Sisters in the Oregon stretch of the Cascades, appears to have been dormant since the last Ice Age despite relatively recent eruptions on neighboring peaks, he said.

In the rest of the Cascade Range, which stretches from Canada to Northern California, two of the tallest peaks — Mount Rainier in Washington state and Mount Shasta in California — both have erupted at least once in the past 200 years and have had several more over the last 2,000 years. Most were considered minor, according to USGS figures.

The Northwest, in turn, has been relatively quiet compared to other areas of the ring, according to Jim Lühr, director of the glo-



Mount St. Helens roared to life on Oct. 17, 1980,

sending a plume of smoke and ash skyward. The plume was estimated to be 50,000 feet.

Earthquakes beneath Mount St.

Helens this week

are a reminder that

the mountains of the

Cascade Range

are part of a

volcanic "ring of

fire" that encircles

the Pacific Ocean.

AP

bal volcanism program at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

The Aleutian Island chain in Alaska, Central America, Japan and Indonesia have all been more active recently, Lühr said.

"The Aleutians are one of the most vigorous volcanic parts of North America," he said.

But he noted that other parts of the world have plenty of dormant volcanoes, including France and Germany.

Lühr recently returned from a trip to Armenia where ancient petroglyphs show evidence of eruptions.

"There are relatively young volcanoes all

over Armenia," he said. "None have erupted in the last 4,000 years, but clearly ancient peoples have seen them."

There is a chance that other Northwest volcanoes could erupt.

But like Mount St. Helens, it will probably be mostly rock and ash that spew forth, not the dramatic, fiery rivers of lava that accompany eruptions in Hawaii, scientists say.

The Mount St. Helens eruption in 1980 killed 57 people, but other volcanoes have taken a deadlier toll.

In January 2002, lava rolled down the

slopes of the African volcano Mount Nyiragongo and flooded the streets of Goma,

Congo, killing at least 75 people.

Tourists flock to monument for look at rumbling volcano

BY GENE JOHNSON

The Associated Press

MOUNT ST. HELENS, Wash. — Camcorder in hand, Sheri Ray stood on Johnston Ridge named for a man killed when Mount St. Helens erupted in 1980 — and waited impatiently for the volcano to blow again.

"I thought I was going to feel earthquakes," she said, frowning. "I'm mad."

Intensifying rumblings from the nation's most cantankerous mountain had geologists saying Thursday it could erupt any minute.

But hundreds of curious, excited and apprehensive visitors to the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument couldn't feel a thing.

Ray, a 28-year-old bartender from Vancouver, Wash., and her husband, Dustin, called in sick to work to spend the day hoping for an eruption — just not a big one.

"If it's anything like it was last time, I don't want to be here," Dustin Ray said. "It makes you wonder how safe it is to be here."

The 1980 eruption blanketed much of the Northwest with ash. The most recent surge in activity on the mountain is now a weak ebb.

Jeff Wynn, chief scientist at the U.S. Geological Survey's Cascade Volcano Observatory in Vancouver, said tiny quakes were occurring at the rate of three or four a minute on Thursday. Larger quakes, with magnitudes of 3 to 3.3, were occurring every three or four minutes.

New measurements show the 975-foot lava dome in the volcano's



nor crater had moved 2 1/2 inches to the north since Monday, Wynn said.

"Six centimeters may not sound like a lot, but imagine taking a 1,000-foot-high pile of rocks and moving it 2 1/2 inches. For a geologist, that's a lot of energy," Wynn said.

Wynn estimated there was a 70 percent chance the activity will result in an eruption, although nothing like the 1980 blast.

Scientists warn that a small or moderate blast from the southwest Washington mountain could spew ash and rock as far as three miles from the crater at the 8,364-foot peak.

Hundreds of visitors came Thursday to the Johnston Ridge

Observatory, the closest building to the yawning, mile-wide crater left by the 1980 blast. The observatory, about five miles from the crater, is close enough to see, but too far away to be damaged by the minor or moderate eruptions scientists expect.

It was near here that 30-year-old U.S. Geological Survey volcanologist David Johnston was blown away by the furnace-hot blast of the mountain exploding. Before he died, Johnston spent long hours studying the volcano and is credited with urging officials to keep people out of the area. His body was never found.

Jean and Kerby Lee live in nearby Longview, but were in Texas during the 1980 eruption.

Jean recalled making trips to a lake near the volcano with her young children in the 1960s and remembered meeting Harry Truman, a lodge owner who perished along with his building after he refused to leave before the eruption.

"I saw the news and I wanted to come up and see what was going on," Jean Lee said. "There's not much more interesting than this."

A scrolling electronic sign inside the visitors center at the observatory constantly warns visitors of the volcano advisory in effect.

"It's just a dynamic area," said Scott Hinderman, a ranger at the monument, "that's alluring to a lot of folks. They can see the story

Forest Service interpreter Anna White gives a talk Thursday while standing in front of Mount St. Helens at Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, Wash. A series of small earthquakes at the volcano over the past week has prompted scientists to predict an eruption could be imminent.

AP

of the 1980 eruption. It still looks like something happened here, and this is rekindling that whole wonder, that whole amazement at nature."

Visitors also could inspect graphs showing increased seismic activity in the crater. As the visitors gawked, scientists rushed to interpret new data.

A small helicopter circled the rim to download data from instruments planted on the mountain, looking for signs that it is swelling. Before the 1980 eruption, the north flank of the mountain swelled five to seven feet per day.

Hundreds of visitors milled in and out of the visitor's center, including some groups of schoolchildren. Other school trips were canceled, Hinderman said.

A group of 120 7th- and 8th-graders came down from Salmon Bay Middle School in Seattle.

Chaperone Jay Craver said a few nervous parents kept their children home but most were persuaded by USGS officials assurances that the trip would be safe.

"I think it would be cool to see some ash or steam come up as long as no one got hurt," said Charlotte Newman, 12.

Some of the visitors were people from nearby cities who had never visited the monument.

Nick Stamos, an unemployed delivery truck driver from Lymington, made his first visit to St. Helens on Thursday. As he looked over the gray moonscape between the observatory and the crater, he said he's sorry he waited so long.

"Even if nothing happens, the visitors' center itself is worth the trip," Stamos said.

School experiments with same-sex classes

By ALLISON BARKER

The Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Thirteen-year-old Virginia Marker was always the kind of student who wanted to get lost in the crowd, hoping teachers wouldn't call on her.

"That was until this year when Stonewall Jackson Middle School decided to separate its 610 boys and girls into single-sex classes for part of the day. Only weeks into the one-year experiment, Marker has improved her D average in math to a C.

"Having an all-girls class is pretty cool because you can do things without the boys there to pick on you," she said. "I feel like I can ask questions without getting embarrassed."

Stonewall is the first public school in West Virginia to segregate students by gender in grades six through eight for classes in English, math, science and social studies. Other courses, including art, physical education and band, are mixed.

Single-sex education is not a

new idea, but Principal Carol Thom decided to give it a try after two years of effort to improve student achievement left Stonewall Jackson still one of 38 low-performing schools in West Virginia. Teachers jumped at the idea and state and county officials did not object.

"This is hormone city," Thom said. "Middle school kids are very focused on what each other thinks of each other. When you take that sexual tension out of the classroom, then they focus on academics."

Stonewall Jackson is among at least 147 out of the nation's 91,000 public schools opting for single-sex classes this year as administrators look for ways to improve student performance under the federal No Child Left Behind Act, according to the National Association for Single Sex Public Education in Poolesville, Md.

Supporters say separation reduces distractions and classroom inhibitions. It also allows teachers to cater to different learning

"Middle school kids are very focused on what each other thinks of each other. When you take that sexual tension out of the classroom, then they focus on academics."

Principal, Stonewall Jackson Middle School

styles. Girls, they say, often want to break into small work groups while boys tend to engage more in debate.

Stonewall Jackson is located in a racially mixed area on Charleston's west side. About 70 percent of the students qualify for free and reduced lunch.

Two years ago, only 46 percent of the students met standards in reading, while only 51 percent met standards in math. Last year, reading competency jumped to 81 percent and math to nearly 59 percent.

While same-sex education has long been available in private schools, it has been virtually un-

known in public schools since the 1972 implementation of Title IX, a federal rule prohibiting discrimination based on gender. Title IX discouraged single-sex schooling, although a handful of schools met the law with a "separate but equal" setup.

That changed when President Bush signed No Child Left Behind into law in 2001. It allows single-sex classrooms if comparable curricula and facilities are available to both sexes.

The U.S. Department of Education took public comments on the changes earlier this year but has yet to update the regulations, leaving schools that want to try single-sex education in legal limbo.

The move to water down Title IX has drawn criticism from groups such as the National Organization for Women and the American Association of University Women, which argue that segregated classes open the door for unequal treatment, promote gender stereotypes and fail to prepare students for life.

In its 1998 report, "Separated by Sex: A Critical Look at Single-Sex Education for Girls," the AAUW found there was "no evidence that single-sex education is better than coeducation."

In the new book "Same Difference: How Gender Myths Are Hurting Our Relationships, Our Children, and Our Jobs," Rosalind Barnett and Cary Rivers say it is teacher quality and higher expectations that make a difference in the classroom, not gender separation.

"Teaching styles that emphasize different tactics for boys and girls are more often rooted in stereotypes than research or hard science and can lead to a poorer-quality education for girls," the authors conclude.

Mom delivers animal parts for dissection

By RACHEL D'ORR

The Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Stephanie Bradford isn't content with her daughter dissecting frogs in science class. She wants the students to cut into the hearts and eyes of moose, caribou, bear and other large game.

Bradford, who like many residents of Alaska's Interior lives in a hunting household, is asking local hunters to donate organs to her 12-year-old daughter's school.

"It doesn't matter what the animal is," Bradford said. "We'll take what people donate."

So far, a half-dozen people have pledged parts from moose, caribou and a cow for Megan's class at Tanana Middle School in Fairbanks, Bradford said. Donations include two sets of moose eyes the size of pingpong balls and three moose hearts — organs rarely if ever seen in other schools, according to the National Science Teachers Association in Arlington, Va.

"Big game would be very uncommon," said Anne Tweed, president of the association, which has 55,000 individual and institutional members in the United States and abroad.

"This is certainly a case that is more particular to that part of the country. It's interesting to me when people are able to use local resources, especially rural areas that don't have access to the same resources found in more urban areas."

Bradford, a former high school English teacher, sent an e-mail to

her daughter's seventh-grade science teacher, Donna Knutson, who was thrilled with the quest.

"Only a science teacher would get excited about this," Knutson said. "It was totally the mom's idea. Plus she knows our budget's been cut pretty bad."

A decade ago, each of the school's six science teachers had a \$2,000 yearly budget for special expenses such as dissection supplies, Knutson said. Now four science teachers split a total of \$2,400. Of that, \$600 goes toward buying 160 frogs to be cut up by pairs of seventh-graders.

Some teachers in Western states use beef and sheep organs, readily available from packing houses or other sources. When budgets are tight, others make do with chicken wings or computer-simulated frogs, Tweed said.

Longtime hunter Craig Anderson is donating the eyes of a moose he shot Sept. 10 to Megan's class. "So I dug out the eyes and leave the head in the field, but Anderson carried this one out because he planned to have it mounted."

He found out a mount would be too expensive, and soon after he learned of Bradford's call for organs. Anderson said he would have given her the animal's heart, too, but it was destroyed by the rifle shot through the ribs.

"Nobody had ever had a request like that, but both my daughters attended the school. It's a good school," Anderson said. "So I dug out the eyes and took a whole bunch out, including the optic nerves and some fat. Hey, let's get these kids going on science."



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Rural residents learn the bear necessities

Increasing encounters scary for Wyo. and Mont. residents

BY MIKE STARK

The Billings (Mont.) Gazette

WAPITI, Wyo. — Theresa Lineberger can still remember the young male grizzly bear that crawled onto her family's deck, perched himself on the railing and munched on all of the crab apples he could swipe from a nearby tree.

"I nailed him with a full can of (pepper) spray," said Lineberger, an emergency room nurse who lives on a ranch near Wapiti with her husband, Ron. "I don't dislike (bears), but when I'm home, where I'm supposed to feel safe, I don't want to have encounters."

Bears, black and grizzly, are common at the Linebergers' place. One summer and fall, 11 had to be trapped and relocated. Like many who live in the heart of grizzly country, the Linebergers are tolerant of bears and, increasingly, are making efforts to live peacefully with them. At their ranch 20 miles west of Cody, they have put up an electric fence, taken down bird feeders during the summer and try to keep apples and other things that attract bears out of reach.

The efforts help keep the fami-

ly safe and reduce the risk that grizzlies will have to be trapped.

"What we're trying to do is keep bears from getting into trouble and give them an opportunity to keep living," said Lineberger, who also co-wrote a grant application that paid for a bear-proof fence at the Wapiti school playground.

Grizzlies have become a way of life for residents along the North Fork of the Shoshone River. The work of people like the Linebergers should help reduce the risk of conflicts between people and bears — but it will not eliminate them.

"You can still be doing everything right and something bad could happen," Lineberger said. "It's not anybody's fault. They're just not tame animals."

As the grizzly population around in the area continues to expand, more bears and people are going to be bumping into each other.

The trick is finding ways to co-exist. In some cases, that means replacing regular garbage cans with bear-proof bins, placing electric fencing around beehives or knowing more about how to be-



With the bear and human populations on the rise in Montana and Wyoming, residents are learning to live with their four-legged neighbors. "Wherever there's people and grizzly bears, there will always be some level of conflict," said biologist Kim Barber.

have in the backcountry. In other cases, that could mean allowing some of the most troublesome bears to be trapped or killed and, in certain situations, retiring federal grazing allotments where grizzlies are common.

"Wherever there's people and grizzly bears, there will always be some level of conflict," said Kim Barber, a biologist who works in the Shoshone National Forest. "But bears are here to stay, and people are here to stay. There's got to be some common ground."

Finding that "common ground"

may sound simple, but it also has required a psychological shift in how people view grizzlies. As settlers moved into the West, the intimidating grizzly was largely seen as a bloodthirsty beast capable of ruining livestock operations and worse. Surviving meant keeping the bear at bay.

"The old attitude was, if it got in the way, we got rid of it," Barber said.

These days, people still fear the grizzly — it is, after all, the biggest meat-eating predator in North America — but some are also more tolerant.

For years, federal agencies have pushed an aggressive public education program, using brochures, classes and roadshows to talk not only about the potential danger of bears but, more

importantly, how best to live with them.

Most of the time, that means leaving bears alone, especially those that live in remote areas away from people. But in cases where bears are using the same land as people, a scenario that's becoming more common as the population grows, something extra is needed.

Joan Lamb keeps a shattered windshield smeared with a huge paw print — the signature of a grizzly that broke into the kitchen and smashed up her deep fryer a few years back.

There are other mementos, too — pictures of bears in every season and claw marks on old doors. As the owners of the Elephant's Head Lodge for 20 years, Phil and Joan Lamb have collected enough bear encounters to spin taller stories than any fisherman. It's part of the bear necessities of life on the North Fork, they say.

"Bears don't really bother — it's the way it should be," Joan said. "We can sit back and watch Mother Nature in action. Not too many people get to do that."

Bears are good for business, her husband added.

"In our first half-dozen years, we only saw evidence of bears, and now 60-70 percent of our guests see an actual bear," Phil said. "Bears bring out the rank in virtually all of our guests, but most of the guests just get excited."

Mark Bruciner, a bear-management officer for the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, said he has seen a change in attitude in recent years.

"There are people that aren't particularly fond of grizzly bears, but they're doing what they can to get along with them," he said.

Experts: Big species likely die off quicker

BY RANDOLPH E. SCHMID

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Being the biggest dog may pay off at feeding time, but species that grow too large may be more vulnerable to extinction, new research suggests.

More than 50 million years a succession of large carnivores evolved in North America, diversified, and then died out.

Researchers studying canids — the family that includes dogs and wolves — reported in Thursday's issue of the journal *Science* that as these predators grew larger they tended to become more specialized, making them more vulnerable to extinction.

"What happens is, for a variety of reasons, predators tend to get large," said Blaire Van Valkenburgh of the University of California at Los Angeles. But she said, as meat-eating animals become larger they are forced to prey on animals larger than themselves — catching small animals such as mice and rabbits requires more energy than it's worth.

Once they cross that line and

start to prey on larger animals, the predators develop larger jaws and teeth and generally become more specialized. In addition, they need bigger ranges, Van Valkenburgh said.

Needing larger ranges and eating only limited prey in the long run makes them vulnerable when conditions change, resulting in periodic disappearance of these large carnivores.

Even today, she noted, large predators such as tigers and wolves are often found on endangered species lists.

In another report in the same journal, paleontologist Anthony D. Barnosky and colleagues studied large animal extinctions that occurred between 50,000 and 100,000 years ago.

These extinctions included animals such as mammoths and mastodons, the saber-toothed cat, ground sloths and native American horses and camels.

While many researchers have blamed humans for these extinctions, the team led by Barnosky, of the University of California, Berkeley, said humans and climate change share the blame.

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Back to work: How soon for new moms?

BY H.J. CUMMINS

Minneapolis-St. Paul Star Tribune

Sleep deprivation rolled into Carolyn Solberg's life seven weeks ago.

The cause was a healthy pair of new twins, Zachary and Anna. Solberg couldn't be happier. She couldn't be more tired.

"Part of the reason you need maternity leave is you're not getting any sleep," said Solberg, a nurse practitioner at the Partners in Pediatrics clinic in Maple Grove, Minn. That's why she's grateful she has another six weeks of maternity leave.

Fatigue is one of about two dozen ailments found in working mothers in new research by the University of Minnesota.

The study is part of an emerging science that looks at what some experts see as a long-neglected consideration: How women physically recover from childbirth and the implications for workplace policies in America.

Carolyn Solberg has been on leave since June.

The university study of 716 new mothers is tracking common postpartum ailments such as fatigue, headaches, backaches, constipation and hemorrhoids for 18 months after

Study tracks how women recover from childbirth

childbirth.

"Any one of those health problems doesn't sound very dramatic," said Patricia McGovern, principal researcher on the project and associate professor in the university's School of Public Health. "But the women had an average of six of these symptoms."

The issue is important, because women with infants are the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. workforce, McGovern said. The 2000 census showed that 63.5 percent of women with children under age 6 are working.

Some attorneys predict that by lifting these ailments from "nuisance" to "illness" status in the case of new mothers, the science could give the women new rights under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

The federal law requires employers of 50 or more to grant 12 weeks' unpaid leave a year for family needs, including the birth of a child.

Principally, it might give women who hurry back to work and then collapse under the load a claim on more time off under

the FMLA that is not now acknowledged by U.S. employers.

McGovern says family-leave policies will work better if they take the recovering mothers' common ailments into account.

She remembered attending legislative hearings when Minnesota passed its parental-leave act in 1987.

"People talked, number one, about the cost to the employer; number two, about the mother's job security, and number three, a little bit about baby bonding," she said. "But no discussion that I ever heard was on the women's

health."

family leave already is controversial, as advocacy groups tug at it in opposite directions.

Employers complain the act's provisions have been stretched far beyond its original intent, which is to help workers get through serious health problems.

Women's groups, on the other hand, want to provide at least partial pay during leaves, arguing that many employees otherwise couldn't afford to take them.

Some business groups don't believe there is a problem with the status quo.

"I think generally employers are going to accommodate women coming back after pregnancy to deal with health issues," said Tom Hesse, vice president for government affairs at the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. "My sense is they are pretty flexible."

But where they aren't, the new science could force a change, said Minneapolis employment attorney David Cossi.

Cossi gave this example: A

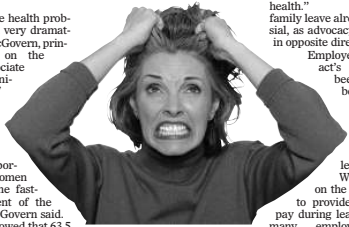
woman returns to work six weeks after her baby is born. She is exhausted and develops chronic headaches. She would like to work part-time. Her boss is under no obligation to allow that.

But if science connects her ailments to childbirth in a hospital — because the FMLA defines any hospital stay as evidence of a "serious health condition" — she might be entitled to the balance of her 12 weeks' annual FMLA leave.

Even if researchers document that new mothers have significant health problems at work, there remains the perennial question of who should pay for them to take more time off if they cannot afford to do so.

Business owners generally oppose paid family leaves because of equity concerns, said George Gmach, surveys manager at the Employers Association, a business services association in Plymouth. Giving mothers time to be home with babies, and others time to care for aged parents or a sick spouse, are all admirable, Gmach said.

"All these are worthy issues. The problem is paying for them. We know there is tragedy after tragedy, need after need, in all families. At what point does an employer say: 'You have the tragedy, you have the need. That's not covered.'"



INTENSITY

<noun> in-tēn-si-tē

1. exceptionally great concentration, power or force.
2. the amount or degree of strength



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Check facts on Kerry

In response to the Sept. 21 letter "Kerry loses the honor battle," I have to ask the writer where he gets his information. I am glad his ex-Marine buddies don't brag about how they were wounded and about the medals that they received. John Kerry states he earned his medals, but does not brag about it either, not in any news that I have been able to see.

He should check his facts about Kerry's service and medical records, and his attendance record with the Senate. All three are public records, and are on display all over the Internet.

I am not trying to change anyone's vote, only to discount the opinion of those who don't know what they are talking about.

Staff Sgt. Phillip Tyler
Forward Operating Base Speicher, Iraq

Donate unwanted tax refunds

Consider these comments: "At home, the president and the Republican Congress have made equally fateful choices indeed. For the first time ever when America was in a war footing, there were two huge tax cuts, nearly half of which went to the top 1 percent. I'm in that group now for the first time in my life."

"On Homeland Security, Democrats tried to double the number of containers at ports and airports checked for WMD. The \$1 billion cost would have been paid for by reducing the tax cut of 200,000 millionaires by \$5,000 each. Almost all 200,000 of us would have been glad to pay \$5,000 to make the nearly 300 million Americans safer — but the measure failed because the White House and Republican leadership in the House decided my tax cut was more important." — Former President Clinton, 2004

(Teresa Heinz Kerry) said she was embarrassed to receive tax cuts advocated by President Bush and supports her husband's efforts to roll them back for higher incomes and use those funds for education, health care and deficit reduction." — The Business Journal-Azusa, Sept. 23, 2004

If these Democrats are so "embarrassed" about receiving this tax cut, did they return/contribute the resulting tax returns/proceeds to the federal government or a charity? Did President Clinton return his \$5,000 to pay for the tax cut? Did he actively "work the phones" to get his fellow Democratic millionaire friends who the

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"would have been glad" to contribute their \$5,000 share? I doubt it.

Teresa Heinz Kerry's net worth was recently valued at approximately \$750 million. I'll wager she enlists an army of lawyers and accountants to ensure her tax bill is smaller, not larger.

So please, Democrats, spare us the weeping, gnashing of teeth and crocodile tears about Republicans "forcing" you to take tax cuts. Donate it, return it or shut up.

Todd Schoultz
Logistical Support Area Anacostia, Iraq

Retirement for reservists

In response to Tom Philpott's Sept. 26 "Military Update" column, "GAO frowns on drop in Reserve retirement age." Of course government would never approve spending more money unless there was something to gain for itself. As the article states, only 1 in 4 reservists serves long enough to retire. Most people today feel that waiting until you're 60 to see any gains is not a good investment in time. They could find part-time jobs with larger companies to supplement their income, and invest in the company to see larger returns sooner.

The compensation that reservists/National Guardsmen receive while deployed is the very same the active-duty troops receive.

Don't get me wrong, the active duty does an outstanding job. But how does the Department of Defense justify saving money on shifting skills back to the active duty? Instead of paying reservists for the extra work they are doing, they are paying someone 365 days a year to do the same job.

As the writer of "Army's redheaded stepchild" (letter Sept. 26) states, reservists and guardsmen are looked at as stepchildren. We have to follow the same rules, go through the same training, yet our promotion process is a nightmare. If there isn't a slot for you to be promoted into, you will never be promoted.

One thing the government doesn't see is that the Guard/Reserve brings something to the playing field that the active duty does not. Most if not all guardsmen/reservists have full-time jobs. We do everything and anything. That experience comes in handy when trying to build up a bare base or operate equipment that is rarely used by active duty.

I'm sure the Government Accountability Office would give a better look at upping the retirement benefits for guardsmen and reservists if their positions weren't being filled, and the sons and daughters of government officials were being drafted and deployed to fill in for the missing "redheaded stepchildren."

Staff Sgt. Bradley Doyle
Balad, Iraq

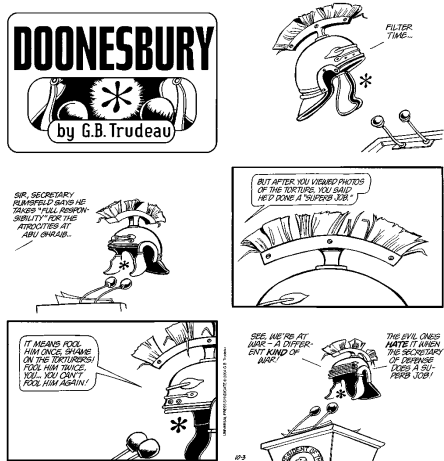
Misplaced priorities

I recently tried to mail a "care package" to my husband deployed downrange. The only box I could find was a "Priority Mail" box, so I tried to cover up and mark out the words "Priority" as much as I could. I went to the post office and was told that since the package was going downrange and was in a Priority box, I had to pay for it (the senior airman said he saw that I tried to mark out all the "Priority" words).

Needless to say I was shocked. Talk about supporting your troops downrange. If this package never leaves the military's hands, why does it matter that it has "Priority" partially written on it? But I will go home, cover up to rest of the "Priority" words on my box and mail it for free the next day.

A message to all family members who have loved ones downrange: If you would like to send a package, remember to MPFS your package in a nonpriority box.

Jennifer Zepeda
Ramstein, Germany



OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

Hill can only muster bluster

The Morning Call, Allentown, Pa.

Focus? That is the one-word message of advice that citizens wanted to send to members of Congress at the end of last month. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate looked as if they are having trouble seizing and acting upon the issues that are most important to the nation.

But the (Republican-controlled) House also passed a strange measure having to do with the Pledge of Allegiance. It would prevent the federal courts from ruling against including the phrase "under God" in the pledge.

Three problems: First, since there is nothing coercive about reciting the pledge, no broad legislation is justified. Second, it strikes us as unconstitutional for Congress to try to limit the purview of the courts in this way. It is a very serious matter to deny people who believe this or that thing their day in court.

Finally, there is a bit of cynical politics at play here. That is, majority leaders in the Senate (also Republican) have no plans to take up the pledge legislation; this isn't going to become law. This allows House members a "free vote" on a social issue that is important to some people. In a sense, it's all going for political fun, but we'd be more comfortable if members of Congress had a healthier respect for the separation of powers that the founders put into the Constitution.

Prepare touch-screen Plan B

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer

Americans will have to hold their collective breath and hope for minimal voting problems on Nov. 2. Four years after the first voting fiasco, our ability to ensure a smooth, accurate election count leaves much to be desired.

No election can be conducted without potential for error or fraud. New problems arise, though, as we move forward. Touch-screen voting must have a paper trail, so recounts can be conducted.

[Washington] Secretary of State Sam Reed wisely has ordered paper records for the 2006 election. Congress has so far failed to follow suit on the federal level.

A host of other ideas has arisen, including having large stacks of paper ballots available at all polling places in case of machine problems.

Secrecy ought to disappear from the systems for testing software in voting machines. There must also be a serious look at the legitimate questions raised about political bias in voting-machine manufacturers and Republicans.

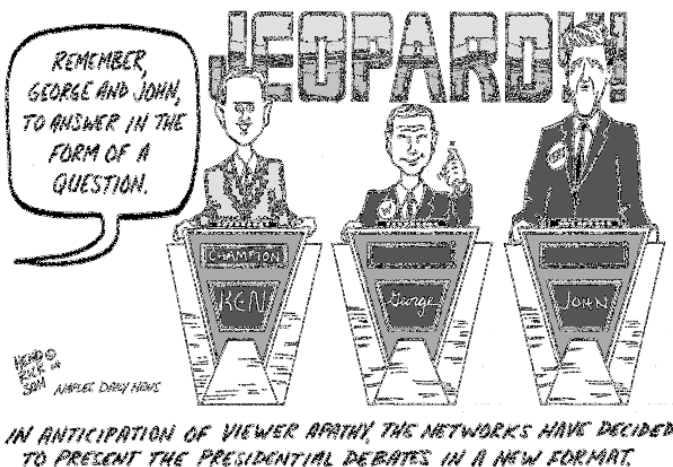
RICO not suave move here

The Daily Nonpareil,
Council Bluffs, Iowa

The federal government seems willing to use any tool it takes, even an illegitimate one, to crush the tobacco companies. While many may applaud the fact, they shouldn't.

What is going on right now is a \$280 billion industry — or at least major segments of it — if the Justice Department is successful. After the choice of the Racketeer Influence and Corrupt Organizations Act, a loosely framed, gotcha piece of legislation adopted in 1970 to ease the way of cops and prosecutors in putting mobsters behind bars.

Should tobacco companies now have to dread it, too? No one can argue that the duplicitous behavior of the tobacco executives was anything but awful. ... But the reprehensibility of Big Tobacco does not



Meet hopefuls' talking points

The Press and Sun Bulletin,
Binghamton, N.Y.

The 2004 presidential debates began Thursday, which means the spotlight is on Judd Gregg and Gregory Craig.

Who? Gregg, a New Hampshire senator, is the stand-in for Sen. John Kerry at President Bush's Texas ranch. He previously impersonated Al Gore during Bush's preparations for the 2000 debates.

Craig, an lawyer on President Clinton's impeachment defense team, stood in for Bush during Sen. Kerry's predebate practices in Wisconsin.

The two role-players are part of large debate "teams," of course — people who are trying to make their candidates look good and sound good for the debates. Some of them are experts in style; others in substance. Gregg and Craig are trying to give the candidates some sense of what their opponents' style is ... or ... doing the course of the discussions.

The debates are so over-rehearsed that spontaneity is rare, but they remain worthwhile exercises — assuming, of course, that substance still matters in U.S. politics. Style is nice, but not nourishing. And if Bush and Kerry want to concentrate on style, then let's have a debate between Gregg and Craig.

Vietnam, a Thirty Years' War?

Durango (Colo.) Herald

The Vietnam War is 30 years in the past. How it got to be the definitive issue in this election year appears to be a study in how American voters will allow their heads to be spun any way political candidates want to whirl them.

John Kerry may or may not have earned the medals he was awarded for his service in Vietnam. He did serve, and if he were a smarter candidate, he would have said simply, "I was there. You didn't."

George W. Bush may or may not have served the time he owed the National

Guard, and all sorts of documents showing he did or did not may or may not have been forged. (Notice a pattern developing here?) If he were a smarter candidate and a better leader, he would have said, long ago, "Let's talk about my presidency, not my misspent youth."

The Vietnam era is history, left behind in the last century by two men who haven't spent the past three decades in limbo. There are also events more current than the 1970s, and they are not being sufficiently debated because, for some incomprehensible reason, Americans are not forcing the issues.

Just say who ponied up dough

Herald-Journal, Spartanburg, S.C.

President Bush's campaign has found a way around the limits on how much money it can spend on advertising. Sen. John Kerry's campaign is now looking at adopting the same tactic.

The situation illustrates the futility of campaign finance laws. Over and over again, campaign money flows like water, over and around any obstacle put in its way.

Some in Congress will complain and criticize. They are even likely to offer new bills to fix this loophole in the law. ... But the money will find a way around the law. And the same politicians who pass the new laws will take advantage of the new loopholes.

Congress should focus less on restricting the money and more on informing the voters. Let the candidates raise and spend the money.

But require them to immediately disclose and publish on the Internet their contributions and their expenses in detail.

Let candidates, politicians and independent groups spread their political message. That's part of an open and vital democratic process. But require them to let voters know who is paying for these messages.

As long as voters can obtain the information about political income and expenses, they can make their own judgments about what is appropriate and excessive.

Victims of the no-parent trap

The Walla Walla (Wash.)
Union-Bulletin

Do people want government to be our nanny? Apparently some folks do. A recent

study by the Kaiser Family Foundation found two-thirds of parents want the government to place tighter controls on sex and violence on television. And not just for broadcast TV. About half the parents wanted the government to crack down on sex and violence on cable channels.

So, are these parents doing their part to keep their kids from watching inappropriate TV shows? Nope.

In fact, just 15 percent of parents have taken advantage of the new technology mandated by the government: the V-chip, that allows parents to block specific programs. Just 40 percent of parents were even aware their TV had a V-chip.

Apparently it isn't good enough that the government took steps so parents could more easily control what their kids watch. No, parents want the government to do it all for them.

It's absurd. Parents need to parent. They, not the government, should set limits for their children.

FCC's true motives exposed

Chicago Tribune

Eight months after the infamous Janet Jackson Super Bowl halftime show, the Federal Communications Commission finally calculated what a flash of her breast will cost CBS Television parent Viacom Inc. — \$550,000. That's the maximum fine of \$27,500 for each of Viacom's 20 CBS stations, for airing what FCC Chairman Michael Powell called "a stunt more fitting of a burlesque show."

He's right about that. The Jackson performance was either a clumsily staged publicity stunt or a bizarre accident.

But \$550,000? That's ridiculous overkill. There's no public evidence that CBS had any advance knowledge or complicity in the famous "wardrobe malfunction." Nor did those stations have any significant role in what the network aired. Could they have reasonably avoided broadcasting it? No. Has the network moved to prevent such things from happening in the future, via tiny displays of free broadcast? Yes.

It's too bad Powell didn't listen to his own arguments and vote against the CBS fine. Instead, he played to the grandstands by scolding broadcasters with a chilling phrase: "The U.S. Constitution is generous in its protection of free expression, but it is not a license to thrive!"

Politicians have pondered to outraged viewers and flogged this election-year issue enough.

Act snuffed out

MI GRAND RAPIDS — Worried that a flaming man fired from a cannon might send the wrong message to children on the eve of Fire Prevention Week, the city commission has snuffed out the act of a headliner with the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

"Bailey's Comet" will not soar brightly when "The Greatest Show on Earth" visits Van Andel Arena this week.

The circus' city fireworks permit still will allow performer Tina Miser to shoot her husband out of a cannon. But it won't let her douse him with lighter fluid before she sends him sailing across the arena.

Brian Miser, whom the circus promotes as a "human fireball," wears two fireproof suits and is doused with fire extinguishers when he lands, so the act probably would pass a city safety inspection, Fire Safety Inspector Ted Jensen said.

Rush-hour traffic blues

CT NEW CANAAN — John Kjekstad, hoping to avoid rush-hour traffic on the way home, found a quick, but ultimately illegal way to get home: via helicopter.

Kjekstad, who runs two helicopter and airplane charter companies, had planned Thursday to land his chopper at Teterboro Airport in New Jersey and drive home to New Canaan.

On his way to the airport, though, Kjekstad told police he saw bumper-to-bumper traffic on the Merritt Parkway and chose to fly home instead.

After landing in his back yard, a neighbor complained.

He was issued a \$75 ticket for violating a town ordinance prohibiting landing aircraft on residential property, Sgt. Louis Gannon said Tuesday.

Cop charged with assault

TX HOUSTON — A Prairie View A&M University police officer is accused of opening fire on another motorist after a wreck, according to reports.

Officer Isabel Orellana is charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and driving while intoxicated, according to Houston police. The motorist, Steve Lam, was uninjured.

Orellana, 30, was off duty and not wearing a police uniform at the time of the shooting about 3 a.m. on Sunday.

The shooting occurred after Orellana's Ford Mustang struck the 23-year-old Lam's truck, causing minor damage, police said.

Orellana, who appeared to be intoxicated, refused to exchange information with Lam and told him she wanted to "handle this tomorrow," police told the Houston Chronicle in Thursday's editions.

Whale surfing

CA SAN CLEMENTE — A surfer says the swell he was riding on a recent trip turned out to be more than just a wave — it was a whale.

Spyros Vamvas, a 60-year-old San Clemente therapist, felt the ocean swirl under him and was lifted up by the giant mammal.

"All of a sudden I just felt, wow, this huge noise and bump," said Vamvas, "and it lifted my board



up. I'm looking down, and there's just swirling water and I see barrels on the back of the whale. I'm used to dolphins. This was different. It was huge."

Witnesses at Lasuen Beach on Monday morning began yelling.

Vamvas had no idea how big the whale was. Others on the beach guessed between 15 feet to 30 feet long, meaning the whale was likely a juvenile.

Vamvas, who has been surfing since he was 12, said the whale lifted him gently. "I never changed position on my board," he said.

Really bad check

IL EDWARDSVILLE — In search of a date, an ex-con instead found a quick way behind bars when police said he tried to use a checking account that wasn't his — that of the Madison County Jail.

David Wroten was charged with financial fraud for allegedly using the account to try to cover the \$39.95 membership fee for an online dating service, prosecutors said.

"How dumb is it to use a law enforcement agency as your bank, so to speak? I guess if you're going to scam somebody, picking on John Q. Public is one way to go, but picking on your neighborhood police department is even worse," said Sheriff Robert Hertz.

Wroten, 20, allegedly got the ac-

count number from a check issued to him for money left over in a jail account when he was released in April after being held there on a theft charge.

Holy antennas

VT NEWPORT — Members of St. Mary Star of the Sea Roman Catholic Church can get a glimpse of what cellular antennas would look like in their church.

Three cellular phone antennas were temporarily installed in a steeple.

Verizon Wireless plans to install six permanent antennas in the church's two steeples. Although more than a year ago the parish council accepted with little fanfare Verizon's offer to pay \$1,500 a month for use of the steeples, it has become a divisive issue among members of the church. It would be the first Catholic church in the state to house cellular antennas.

The project might still need approval by the District 7 Environmental Commission. In the next week, the district commission coordinator will decide whether the aesthetic impact merits a hearing.

Soiled clothing

VA NEWPORT NEWS — School officials blame a misunderstanding for a third-grader spending several hours in clothes stained with another student's urine.

But the mother of the boy said she's not satisfied with the explanation.

Michelle Morgan, school division spokeswoman, said a teacher, principal and assistant principal each thought that Daveina Mayo-Perry's son had received clean clothing. Another boy affected got some urine on a shoe, Morgan said.

The pupil who urinated on the two boys has been disciplined, Morgan said. She said the incident didn't stem from a fight.

Oil exploration

AK ANCHORAGE — Gov. Frank Murkowski says a new federal study shows oil exploration equipment should be allowed onto fragile North slope tundra draws earlier than usual. Most exploratory work is done in winter when the tundra is frozen and covered with snow, shielding it from damage. Environmental watchdogs say Murkowski is rushing to conclusions from the winter travel study, which has only one season of results.

Nerd tool spotlighted

IN WEST LAFAYETTE — A generation ago, geeks, nerds and brainiacs were easy to spot. They always had slide rules sticking out of their breast pockets.

Now a Purdue University exhibit pays homage to those low-tech accessories that were a necessity for generations of scientists, engineers and mathematicians.

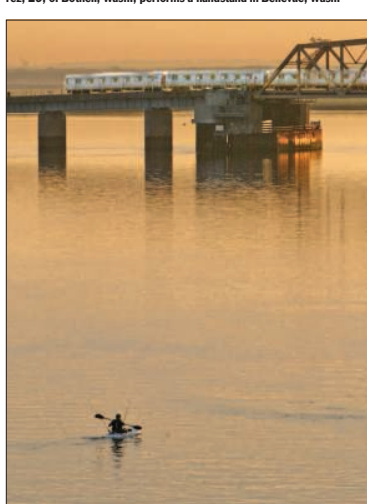
Nearly 200 slide rules are on display at Purdue's Potter Engineering Center. All were donated by Purdue alumni, among them Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon.

Slide rules were rendered obsolete by electronic calculators in the 1970s, ending a run that lasted nearly 400 years. But they are far from forgotten.



Energetic fundraisers

John DeCoursey, 16, left, of Everett, Wash., holds two signs, "Gymnastics For Cash" and "Support Our Bowling Team," as Bryan Alvarez, 29, of Bothell, Wash., performs a handstand in Bellevue, Wash.



Absolute solitude

A lone kayaker paddles in Jamaica Bay while an early morning A line subway train crosses a bridge after leaving Far Rockaways in Queens in New York.



Tiny dancers

Five-year-old Alayna Winslow, left, watches Sarah Jones, 7, during a performance by Dance Ltd. School of Dance during the 1st Annual Family Night at the Abilene Civic Center in Abilene, Texas.



A serene view

A rainbow is cast over Spooner Summit just outside Carson City, Nev., after a light rain storm passed through the area.



Monkey see, monkey eat

Indah, a female orangutan, enjoys some corn after she arrived at her new home, Great Ape Trust of Iowa, in Des Moines, Iowa.



Big appetite

Tessa, a two-week-old walrus calf, is fed a simulated walrus milk formula by SeaWorld San Diego animal care specialist Eric Otjen in San Diego.

Identification required

NM SANTA FE — The state Supreme Court ruled only first-time voters who registered by mail will be required to show identification at the polls, a defeat for Republicans who argued that all new voters who didn't register at a county clerk's office should have to show ID. The dispute centered around how many of New Mexico's tens of thousands of newly registered voters must show identification at the polls.

Protection for polls

IA IOWA CITY — A nonprofit group wants election officials to beef up security to keep ballots and voting machines secure before the November election. But the Iowa secretary of state's office says it's not necessary. The Election Center has sent letters to county auditors suggesting security measures, such as installing 24-hour video cameras, locking equipment and ballots are stored. The secretary of state's office says local officials should decide what, if any, security is needed.

Man trapped under tree

VT SHAFTSBURY — A 77-year-old man spent two nights trapped beneath a large beech tree he was cutting for firewood.

Edward Austin told police he had been under the tree before a friend walking his dog found him. Austin was in critical condition at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. Austin was found by a friend, William Hardy, who was walking Austin's property with his airedale terrier.

The hunting dog seemed alarmed, said Hardy, barking and growling toward the back of the woods. Hardy eventually went to see what the dog was upset about and found Austin's tractor nearby. It did not take him long, Hardy said, to figure out that something was not right.

The local fire department was able to move the tree enough to free Austin.

Woman goes off course

MO ST. LOUIS — More than a week after she was reported missing, a 68-year-old woman with Alzheimer's disease who had disappeared while traveling was found by a detective in a New York City hospital.

Annie Burns was found unhurt in a hospital in Brooklyn, N.Y., more than 1,000 miles from her planned destination in Georgia, where she was traveling from St. Louis.

The family called authorities, who contacted Detective Rick Severino, head of missing persons for the St. Louis police.

Burns had been picked up by an ambulance while wandering Brooklyn's streets, but was not able to tell doctors where she was from.

17-foot python found

MS BAY ST. LOUIS — Baby's back Keith Berg's 17-foot Burmese python came out of hiding after a long weekend.

Baby had been missing, and reappeared when the smell of rabbits became too much to resist. Berg used the bunnies as bait.

Baby slithered out from underneath insulation in the attic of

Berg's apartment building and back into captivity. The snake was being kept in Berg's bathroom, but escaped when the door was left ajar.

A new cage for Baby is being built and Berg said the snake is moving there as soon as it is completed. In the meantime, he plans to make sure the bathroom door stays shut.

Judge rebuked

CA SAN FRANCISCO — A state commission rebuked a northern California judge for telling potential jurors that they should think of a phony reason not to serve if they couldn't acknowledge they were racially biased.

Placer County Superior Court Judge Joseph O'Flaherty, in cases in 1999 and 2000 involving black and Iranian defendants, told prospective jurors they should come up with some other reason to get off the jury if they had racial biases and couldn't admit them.

The Commission on Judicial Performance said O'Flaherty defended his statements by asserting that he was condoning lying only in limited circumstances.

Town receives \$9 million

ME SOUTH BRISTOL — A Louisiana woman who spent summers in South Bristol has left the town \$9 million in her will.

Ann Wilder Stratton, who died July 19 at the age of 80, visited the family's home on the S Road into the 1980s. Even after she sold the family property and gave the family owned Hodgkins Island to the Dunsmuir River Association, she continued sending \$1,000 "property tax" checks to the town.

Selectmen said they will recommend that interest on the money be used to lower property taxes and to obtain shorefront land for a town park and boat launch.

Fondling suspect caught

VA HARRISONBURG — A man suspected of breaking into the homes of 18 college women while they slept, and indecently touching some of them, is in police custody. Arnold Adjei Adjei, 23, of Harrisonburg, was charged with 18 felony counts of breaking and entering and two counts of sexual battery, police said. "It's a great relief to have this predator in custody," said Martha Garnt, commonwealth's attorney for Rockingham County. "The sanctity of our homes should never be violated." Police say Adjei broke into the unlocked apartments of women in the area surrounding the James Madison University campus.

Healthy lifestyles

MN WOODBURY — The Bush administration is rolling out money for Minnesota to promote healthier lifestyles for children.

Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman announced that select schools and cities across the state are sharing in \$2.8 million in grant money.

Veneman says the money would pay for nutrition education, programs to promote physical activity and health screenings. Meanwhile, four Minnesota cities — Minneapolis, St. Paul, Rochester and Willmar — are getting grant money to foster healthy behavior.

Stories and photos from wire services

Sunday Horoscope

OCTOBER 3, 2004 Venus glides into the discerning realm of Virgo, where she'll be until Oct. 28. The beautiful planet gets a kind of cosmic tune-up in Virgo, like a well-tended woman's day at the spa. Beauty, after all, comes with the cost of maintenance. This is the perfect time to zero in on what needs attention in regards to physical appearance and inner beauty.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (October 3). You're prolific and will fill the world with your works this year. The person you align yourself with is the single most important factor to what you experience this month.

So stand with the big boys. Adventure is featured in November. Be willing to travel far to get what you need. Career goals are met in January. Your heart is full of love in the coming year. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 45, 1, 53 and 12.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Heated situations crop up, and you seem to be in the center of the excitement. Your opinion is very different from that of others around you, so be aware of when you're showing up controversy. Break your own rules tonight.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). New horizons are featured, but you have to seek them and be willing to go when called. Be open to unexpected gifts, skepticism aside. Someone wants nothing more than to share his or her happiness about life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When you're away from overbearing people, you're in heaven. Kick back and take care of yourself. Notice subtle patterns in your emotions and in your health. This helps you get into the peak performance zone when you need to.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). This is a day for doing something out of character — like maybe dreaming of distant shores. There are so many beautiful places in the world you've yet to experience. Make a list, and start planning your travels.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). People will make you feel comfortable as you favorite companies, even feel the pressure to put on airs or even

be fabulously entertaining? Treat everyone equally.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Service is high on the ladder of spirituality, and you find fulfilling ways to make your useful now. Loved ones may seem to be miles away, but their thoughts will return to you this evening. Expect nothing, and you get everything.

Joyce Jillson



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Collecting data and being a fast learner are the orders of the day. You'll get something valuable from being invisible in a situation tonight — your fly-on-the-wall status is much better than being the center of attention could ever be.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Fill your mind with pleasant thoughts about others. Though you're a master of intrigue, you wouldn't want to be accused of being emotionally unavailable, would you? Deep connections are forged with open communication tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's little to be experienced, but it's not obvious. Research the newspaper's entertainment section.

You may have to drive to the next town. It's worth it if you're pursuing high-minded activities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You hold an honored place driving family. You can keep your position by refusing to engage in gossip without making the offending party feel guilty. Tonight brings the chance to give recognition and accept responsibility.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Though you have less in common than ever with an old friend, it's still important to keep in touch. The feeling of connection you get keeps you in tune with all humanity.

Also, being a little sentimental softens your thoughts.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your quality of life comes into question. You'll peek through a window into the future. Do you like what you see? If not, now's your opportunity to do something about it.

Your digestion is delicate tonight — stick to "safe" foods.

Creators Syndicate

Origins of 'shaggy-dog' stories

There are two basic kinds of shaggy-dog stories: a long drawn-out circumstantial story concerning an inconsequential happening that impresses the teller as humorous but the hearer as boring, and pointers, or a similar humorous story whose humor lies in the pointlessness or irrelevance of the punch line.

Of course, such stories have probably been around since language began, but they weren't known as shaggy-dog stories until about 1946.

It appears that shaggy-dog stories got their name from one such popular story, or perhaps more than one, which featured a shag-

gy dog.

A man (in London or Scotland) is looking to buy a very shaggy dog (or he's lost his own). He advertises in the London Times, and a man from New York (or Montreal or Australia), after searching high and low, believes he has found just the dog. After enduring a long and complicated journey, the man arrives with the dog, only to have the man who advertised slam the door in his face, muttering "Not that shaggy!"

This column was prepared by the editors of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition. Readers may send questions to Merriam-Webster's Wordwatch, P.O. Box 281, 47 Federal St., Springfield, Mass. 01102.

Third time with girlfriend probably will not be charm

Dear Abby: I met "Monique" six years ago and immediately fell hard for her. We dated for about a month.

At the time she was also seeing someone else. Then one night Monique called me and said she was only going to date one guy, and it wasn't me. Three and a half years later, she called me out of the blue and said she wanted to see me again. I was thrilled.

We dated for a month; then Monique told me she didn't want to have a relationship. I was hurt again.

Seven months later my phone rang. It was Monique saying she wanted to see me. She came over and said she should get married because her daughters need to live in a better neighborhood.

It has now been more than a year. Monique says she loves me and wants commitment. She is 39 and has been divorced three times. I love her, but the way she treated me in the past makes me question whether I should trust her. Should I throw caution to the wind and propose anyway?

— **Crazy About Her in Mobile, Ala.**

DEAR CRAZY ABOUT HER:

No. Pay attention to your misgiv-

ings. They are the voice of your intuition trying to warn you. If you are determined to marry her, do not propose without first having consulted a lawyer and drafting a prenuptial agreement. It won't save you from the risk of heartache, but it could save you from economic disaster later on.

Dear Abby



Dear Abby: I am in my 70s. My wife and I live in a house across the street from two middle-aged ladies. Recently some limbs from one of their trees fell onto their lawn, so I went into their yard to remove them. Rather than welcoming my help, they were upset that I went into their yard without being invited.

Abby, I was raised to help ladies, especially those living alone. I was taught that when help was needed to fix a flat tire or to do some heavy lifting, to stop forward without being asked. Has the world changed so much that I was off base in doing this? We live in a small neighborhood where most people help each other and get along well. However, their reactions really bothered me.

— **Hurt Neighbor, Coweta, Okla.**

Quiet husband keeps his wife in the dark about latest news

Dear Annie: I have been married for over 25 years to the same man.

"Phil" has never been much of a talker, but for the past year or two, he's told me nothing at all. And I do mean nothing.

People have passed away, and I would find out from the person's family a month or two later. They would say, "We told Phil." But of course, Phil didn't tell me. Or if someone has a problem at his job or with a family member, Phil never tells me if he spoke to them or not.

Then when I see the person in question, I'll be told about the confrontation and the great advice Phil gave. Of course, I look totally stupid.

I am tired of being kept in the dark about this man's life, his thoughts, relationships and day-to-day existence. I tell Phil everything because he is my partner and I respect his opinion. He, on the other hand, has no problem saying "I love you," but he confides in the dog more than me.

Any ideas on what to do?

— **Frustrated in Denver**

Dear Denver: Since this is a fairly recent development, it's possible Phil's memory isn't as retentive as it used to be. By the time he sees you, he's probably forgotten these episodes. Would it help to prod him a bit? (Did you run into anyone we know today?)

Either way, you ought to mention to Phil how much this bothers you, and ask him to try harder to keep you in the loop. If that doesn't help, we advise letting it slide. If friends are worried that you didn't know something, simply say, "Oh, you know Phil. He must have forgotten to tell me."

Annie's Mailbox



Dear Annie: I had to respond to "Seeking Some Peace and Quiet," who complained that her neighbor, "Mrs. Jones," calls for her cat quite loudly at all hours of the day and night. My neighbors could have written that letter, because my name is Mrs. Jones and I do the same thing. I call my cat loudly and often.

I am a considerate neighbor, but I wouldn't stop calling my cat for anyone. The only safe place for my cat overnight is in

Dear Hurt Neighbor: You weren't off base; you are a gentleman of the old school. Your neighbors, however, may have been raised to be independent and not to rely on a man's help for anything.

Feeling as they should have posted a "No Trespassing" sign on their property. However, now that you know how they feel about their "turf," don't go into their yard unless invited — if then.

Dear Abby: I have a short-sleeved red "church" dress.

What color shoes should I wear with it? It's almost impossible to find a red shoe that matches. Should I wear black or tan/taupe?

— **Kimmie in Auburn, Ala.**

Dear Kimmie: During the spring and summer, accessorizing with tan or white would be attractive. In the winter, accessorizing with black would be acceptable. Or take your dress to your shoe repair shop and ask if a pair of your shoes could be dyed to match it.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.ueespress.com/dearabby>

Universal Press Syndicate

my house. These same neighbors would undoubtedly complain if the cat was in their yard, leaving paw prints on their cars or digging at their plants.

You'd think they would be happy to have me call him.

I don't become angry with my neighbors when they reveal their engines early in the morning or blow their least clippings in the street, or when their teenagers noisily stroll in at 2 a.m. Considerate neighbors tolerate the little things, are quick with a smile and slow to call the police.

— **Also Seeking Peace in West Chester, Pa.**

Dear Seeking Peace: Yes, neighbors should try to tolerate the little things, but anything that keeps your neighbors awake, night after night, is not a "little thing." If you are doing that, please start calling your cat home earlier in the evening so that you aren't hollering out the windows at midnight. Everyone will be grateful.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mithell and Marcy MacLean, long-time editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net or write to Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

RELIGION

A 'Jewish 007'

Rabbi dedicates his life to restoring torahs hidden during the Holocaust

BY KATHERINE SHAVER

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Menachem Youlus, a Wheaton, Md., rabbi, and two other men have been digging for about two hours on a farm in Ukraine when, five feet into the earth, they found the sea of bones.

The remains of 263 men, women and children still were shrouded in clothing that bore the Star of David, which Jews were forced to wear during the Holocaust. Youlus also discovered what looked to be military body bags.

Inside, he found two cherished items, badly deteriorated but Holocaust survivors just the same: They were Torahs, sacred handwritten scrolls that contain the five Books of Moses.

Discovered four years ago, the scrolls were two of more than 400 Torahs that Youlus and a team of scribes have unearthed from a dark past. Youlus has spent the past 19 years scouring Eastern Europe for them, often working with fellow scribes to restore the scrolls and find them new homes.

"Many of the Torahs come from communities that were completely destroyed in the Holocaust," said Youlus, 43.

"No one is left from these towns," he said. "The only thing that has survived is these Torahs." Some lost Torahs have come his way without any digging. In Ukraine, he bought one from a former Nazi sergeant who said he confiscated it from a man enter-

ing Auschwitz. Youlus discovered another being sold in pieces to artists who were using the sacred parchment as canvas. Some he smuggled out of then-Communist countries, two panels at a time, in the lining of luggage.

"He's an intrepid Jewish 007," said Rabbi Moshe Shaul, ritual director for Chizuk Amuno, a Baltimore synagogue that has two of Youlus' rescued Torahs.

"You wouldn't look at him twice," said Shaul, whose parents were Torah and Holocaust survivors. "But he puts himself in such impossible situations to find, retrieve and resurrect these scrolls."

At his family's store, the Jewish Bookstore of Greater Washington in Wheaton, Youlus and a team of scribes try to repair 60 years worth of damage from mildew, heat, dirt, bugs and rodents. On many Torahs, Youlus said, he also finds bayonet marks and cigarette burns from Nazi desecration.

After using an infrared camera attached to a scanner that shows cracked letters and other details the naked eye can miss, Youlus and his team painstakingly re-ink each one by hand with a goose or turkey quill. Each Torah contains about 302,000 Hebrew letters. It requires hours of concentration.

Youlus often does his work with his brother-in-law, Rabbi Ayson Englander, at the bookstore. Cardboard boxes containing 40 to 50 Torahs, some new, are stacked to its 20-foot ceiling. It takes between seven weeks and



THE WASHINGTON POST/LATOP

Rabbi Menachem Youlus, left, dedicates a Torah at the Sixth and I Historic Synagogue in Washington in honor of Josef and Ellen Ducat. Also present are Stan Cohen, his wife, Sue Ducat, and daughter Hannah Cohen. The Torah was recovered by Youlus in Poland, part of a life's dedication to restoring the sacred texts.

six months to repair a Torah. Youlus estimates they are able to restore about 85 percent of them.

When he's done, Youlus finds them new homes in synagogues, schools and Jewish community centers across the country.

"He's one of the world's great people," said Rick Zitelman, a Rockville, Md., investment and merchant banker. Zitelman and his wife, Cindy, helped buy one of Youlus' Torahs for Sixth and I Historic Synagogue on the edge of Washington's Chinatown.

Youlus — who has a Web site devoted to his mission, www.savetorah.org — estimates that as many as 2,400 scrolls survived the Holocaust. He believes so strongly in saving them that he has gone into debt \$170,000 to finance his work, he said.

Perhaps nothing captures the intrigue and often profound sadness of Torah rescue as Youlus' gruesome discovery in Kamenets-Podolsk, a small town in Ukraine.

A hand-drawn map, marked with an "X" surrounded by a large circle, led to an overgrown area of a farm. Youlus said the farmer made him pay to buy the plot of land before he could dig on it.

Youlus said, he eventually hired a company with a backhoe to unearth the mass grave and the hidden Torahs.

"That was a little more than I bargained for," Youlus said.

Elderly people in the town recalled four Jewish men being forced to bury the massacred bodies, Youlus said. Those men likely

saved the Torahs from a nearby synagogue by wrapping them in the body bags and sneaking them into the grave.

Youlus credits his zeal for Torah rescue to a "deal" he struck with God 21 years ago. He was a 22-year-old accountant when his father and his sister's boyfriend were struck by a car while crossing a road near their synagogue.

Youlus said doctors told him to begin making burial arrangements.

If God would save their lives, he prayed, he would devote a year to studying the Torah. Both men survived.

He didn't know then, he said, that he would end up devoting the rest of his life to saving it.

Karl Ewanoff of the Washington Post contributed to this report.

Church dig discovers history: Centuries-old markers

BY BONNIE NAUMANN

The News Leader of Staunton, Va.

CHURCHVILLE, Va. — Infant daughter of George and Martha Sherman, Anna Accord and Mary Hanger.

Their lives ended in the 1700s and 1800s, but their history was just reborn.

Headstones marking the earthly passage of about a dozen Augusta County residents were unearthed Aug. 24 during construction work at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, said member Tom Linson.

In August, members decided to build a fellowship hall and pastor's office. Because a stream flows behind the church and a few shops are situated to the west, members nervously chose to expand toward the east.

Several yards away was a cemetery began in 1790 by German settlers, Linson said.

"That was our biggest concern when we initially started this project," Linson said. "We had no idea what we were going to find."

On Aug. 16, as workers with Cliff Miller Construction of Bridgewater began to work, residents and neighboring business owners also got the jitters.

Sherry Sheffer, who owns nearby Winkler's Video, said her customers were discussing it. "They said, 'Where'these graves over there?'"

Church records didn't show graves in the 35-by-65 foot space, Linson said. But older church members remembered the area was used as a dump before World War II.



"There was no indication of actual graves, just trash," said foreman Mark Senger.

On Aug. 24, an excavating tool struck a tombstone, cracking it in three pieces, Linson said. Beneath it, a pile of nine other headstones were stacked like cards and others were scattered nearby, Senger said.

At the first sight of a headstone, Miller contacted Linson, who asked that stones be piled out of harm's way in the graveyard. On Monday, only a few names were legible in the pile.

The finding is like gold for local historians.

Katharine Brown, a county Historical Society board member, said she hopes the church will get help from Virginia Department of Historical Resources with cleaning and repair work.

"Some of the engravings can be delicate and may not survive even a rubbing," Brown said.



PHOTOS BY THE NEWS LEADER OF STAUNTON, VA./AP

Above: Workers from Cliff Miller Construction Co., Inc., continue work at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Churchville, Va., on Sept. 27. An assortment of tombstones were uncovered while excavating alongside the church recently. Left: A tombstone, which once marked the grave of George and Lydia Sherman's infant who died Oct. 6, 1833, rests on top and among other such markers in the graveyard next to St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Churchville.

YOUR MONEY

Letter will make last wishes clear when you can't

Susie Besaw, from the book "The Navy Sailor's Spouse," is new to the military lifestyle but is eager to learn more about how to manage her family and her new lifestyle through the monthly Family Readiness Group meetings of her husband, Jake's, new command. Last week Cmdr. Brown talked about estate planning.

"Can anyone tell me the three estate planning documents everyone should have?"

Evelyn raised her hand. "Will, durable power of attorney and medical directive."

"Exactly," the commander said. "Remember to always make an appointment with your base legal to go over these documents. This is only a review."

A will — or our personal declaration of where we want everything to go after we are gone — should include our executor of our last wishes, including:

- Where to distribute or dispose of our belongings
- Who takes care of our minor children
- Your wishes for funeral arrangements

"To help your executor sort out your estate, I also recommend including an informal letter of instruction along with your will telling your executor about the location of your personal property and documents binder; the location of any valuables, jewelry and other family treasures; and a list of those individuals that should be notified after your death. This letter will save your executor much effort."

"You mentioned durable power of attorney," a lieutenant asked. "What is the difference between a power of attorney and a durable power of attorney? I gave my wife a power of attorney to sell our house when I left early from my last duty station."

"You are talking about a specific power of attorney for a specific item with a specific time period," Brown replied. "The durable power of attorney is different. In general, the durable power of attorney appoints somebody to take care of your affairs if you are unable — up to the time you die — and does not have a specific time limit."

"Your durable power of attorney is normally invalid if you are physically or mentally incapable of taking care of yourself. The per-

son appointed by your durable power of attorney uses it to act as if they were you, for everything: to care for your family, pay bills, manage your investments, maintain your home and car, and anything else that needs to be done. It is important that you understand that the durable power of attorney lasts until you regain your health or when you will take over after you die. Pick your personal representative carefully for your durable power of attorney."

"Finally, your medical directive instructs your doctors of your medical-treatment wishes as if you cannot give instructions yourself."

"Can't my spouse just decide how I am to be medically treated?" the lieutenant asked.

"Yes," Brown replied. "If you don't have a medical directive, the doctors will ask your wife first for guidance. But, don't leave any room for interpretation. Write your treatment wishes down."

"Can you give us an example?" I asked.

"Yes, there are many scenarios," Brown replied. "My medical directive spells out how I want to be treated by my doctors in certain serious situations, such as comas. If I am in a coma for a long period, I don't want heroic measures taken to keep me alive. I worked hard over the past 15 years to build my estate for my family, and I don't want my family's finances to be wiped out by catastrophic medical bills. A written medical directive spells out my wishes clearly."

"Now let's take a quick five-minute break before we discuss executor duties and then government benefits. This executor stuff is heavy. A break will help clear your minds."

Everyone stood up and stretched. Several people left the room for some fresh air.

Next week Cmdr. Brown goes over the MFCP's personal and legal blocks.

Copies of Ralph Nelson's books — "The Navy Sailor's Spouse" and "The Navy Sailor's Spouse: A Guide to Master Plan Inc. 500 N. Washington Blvd., Suite 200, Arlington, VA 22201 or online at www.snavy.onweb.com. This article is written and the book is edited by Ralph Nelson. For more information, please see professional assistance. The author specifically disclaims any liability, loss or injury, personal or otherwise — incurred as a consequence, directly or indirectly, of using or applying any of the information contained in this article or the book. E-mail for feedback is: finance@stripes.osd.mil

Money U.



Ralph Nelson



AP photos

Customers Kumiko Takahashi, from left, Shizuyo Sakabe and Midori Abe examine a Coach bag at one of the New York-based company's more than 100 outlets around Japan in downtown Tokyo on Sept. 16.

Coach pushes European big-names out of Japan

BY YURI KAGEYAMA

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Walking down a street in Tokyo, it doesn't take long to spot women clutching Coach bags.

Coach, the New York-based maker of fine leather goods, is succeeding where other American companies have struggled, winning over finicky Japanese customers who have long preferred European and home-grown brands.

With more than 100 retail outlets in Japan, Coach's sales here tripled over the past three years to about 30 billion yen, or about \$270 million, and business in Japan now makes up more than a fifth of its global sales.

Japanese buyers are passionate about the leather and fabric bags and totes.

"I've always wanted a Coach bag," said Akiko Yamaguchi, a university student visiting a Coach store with her mother, who bought two bags for her daughter's 20th birthday. "I'd like to buy lots more if I can."

Coach is so popular that, at the recent opening of its store in the northern city of Sapporo, dozens of women lined up to be among the first to set foot in the shop.

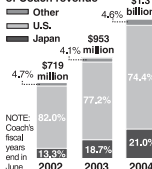
Known for its craftsmanship, Coach is now the No. 2 imported bag and accessory brand in Japan in sales, just trailing France's Louis Vuitton, a favorite here for decades. Coach stores in department stores around the country, and it has four flagship boutiques in Japan, mostly in Tokyo, are totally devoted to its products, with two more opening this year.

"We have a unique brand proposition. We are an accessible luxury

Coach's new bag

Bag manufacturer Coach Inc. has nearly doubled its annual revenue over the past two years due in large part to the company strengthening its foothold in Japan.

Geographic distribution of Coach revenue



NOTE: Coach's fiscal year ends in June.

SOURCE: The company AP

ry accessories brand in which we offer extremely well-made products that are relevant to Japanese consumers' lifestyles at very attractive prices," Coach chief executive Lew Frankfort said during a recent visit to Tokyo. "We think the opportunities are abundant."

Coach keeps prices down — as much as half or a third of European rivals — by maintaining low-cost suppliers and producing the bags in Chinese plants where workers are trained and supervised by Coach to maintain quality.

Still, the bags are not cheap, giving them the luxury-goods aura Japanese shoppers demand. A Coach tote costs about \$700, but smaller bags cost about \$400.

It also has helped Coach that the Japanese culture is brand-conscious. Even in the samurai era, people kept abreast of fashions, coveting brands in noodles, kimonos and bonsai plants.

Being out of touch with what's hip is potentially embarrassing in Japan, and even costly for your career.

The brand loyalty of Japanese often backfired on many American companies trying to break into the market here, although the Gap retail chain, Coca-Cola and Disneyland have been huge hits. Ford Motor Co., Burger King, Gateway and Dunkin' Donuts haven't found Japanese buyers as welcoming.

"Coach is a case study in cracking the Japan luxury market," said Naomi Moriyma, president of New York-based The Moriyma Group, a marketing consulting firm. "Coach is winning in Japan because of intensive consumer research, superb product quality and customer service, stunning new stores and a constant flow of new products."

Japanese are snatching up Coach bags not only in Japan, but also abroad as tourists. The same handbags are cheaper overseas because of Japanese taxes on imports as well as the costs of shipping and store space here. And some Japanese women say their loyalty to the Coach brand developed during shopping trips abroad.

Moriyma says Japan is filled with serious "power-shoppers," who see collecting brands as critical for status and self-expression, accounting for 40 percent of the world's luxury sales.

SEE BAGS ON PAGE 29

JAPAN TV (BILINGUAL, SPORTS, MOVIES AND MUSIC)

SUN, OCT. 3

Morning
10:00 "Shogun" Lesson/NHK Trophy
series (3)
10:30 "Shogun" Tournament (3)

Afternoon
12:00 "Gor" Lesson/NHK Trophy "Gor"
Tournament (3)
1:45 J-League Open Golf: Final Round (1)
1:45 Japan Soft-Tennis Championship-
series (3)

4:00 Japan Pro Ball: Yokohama Bay-
stars vs. Yomiuri Giants (8)
4:00 ACOM International Golf: Final
Round (12)

5:30 Auto Racing: Japan GT Champi-
onship (12)
5:30 Kanagawa Prefecture Children's
Soccer (42)

Evening
6:55 Soccer: AFC U-20 Championship
in Malaysia - Semifinals (10)
7:00 News (1)
8:55 PGA Tour: 2004 Asian Open High-
lights (3)

9:00 Classical Music: NHK Symphony
Orchestra - Rossini's Overture to
"The Barber of Seville" (1:40)
9:00 "The Barber of Seville" (1:40)
9:00 "The Barber of Seville" (1:40)
9:00 "The Barber of Seville" (1:40)

9:05 News: NHK (1)
9:05 News: NHK (1)
9:05 News: NHK (1)
9:05 News: NHK (1)

10:00 Ballet: Prix de Lausanne High-
lights/National Ballet of Canada:
"Swan Lake" (1:40)
10:00 "Swan Lake" (1:40)

WOWW

SUN, OCT. 3

Morning
7:15 U.S. Movie (2001): Enigma (2:05)
7:15 U.S. Movie (2002): Cherish (1:40)
7:15 U.S. Movie (2002): The Time Ma-
chine (1:40)

Afternoon
1:30 U.S. Movie (2002): The Time Ma-
chine (1:40)
1:30 U.S. Movie (2002): Along Came a
Spider (1:47)

6:00 U.S. Movie (2002): Queen of the
Damned (1:50)
6:00 U.S. Movie (2002): Daredevil
(1:50)

9:50 U.S. Movie (2002): Changing
Lanes (1:40)
9:50 U.S. Movie (2002): Middleweight
12 Round Bout: Trinidad vs. Mayor-
ga (1:40)

1:55 U.S. Movie (2001): Domestic Dis-
turbance (1:35)
1:55 Spanish Soccer Liga Espanola

MON, OCT. 4

SUN, OCT. 3

Morning
8:00 World News
8:30 World News
9:00 What's On Japan (9)
9:00 Japanshop (9)
9:00 Japanshop (9)

Evening
1:00 BS Sunday Sports
1:00 BS Sunday Sports
1:00 BS Sunday Sports
1:00 BS Sunday Sports

5:40 World Golf Championships:
AMEX Championship (9)
9:00 BS Sports Club
11:50 CNN News
12:00 World Golf Championships:
AMEX Championship - Final
Round (9)

2:00 MLB: New York Yankees vs. Flor-
ida Marlins
5:00 MLB: Texas Rangers vs. Seattle
Mariners

MON, OCT. 4

Morning
8:00 World News
8:30 World News

JAPAN TV (BS11/NHK SATELLITE) (BILINGUAL AND SPORTS)

SUN, OCT. 3

Evening
7:00 NHK News
12:30 French Movie (1963): Melodie
en Soliste (C-25)

MON, OCT. 4

Morning
10:00 Classical Music: Jose Maria Gar-
cerra & Kaori Murai (guitar) (42)
3:00 Swedish Movie (1936): Intermezzo
to (1:30)

11:30 Friends (42)
1:24 Japan Industrial League vs. Col-
lege Track and Field Meet 2004
(8)
1:59-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 Soccer: Serie A - Milan vs. Reggi-
na (4)

MON, OCT. 4
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

WED, OCT. 6
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

THU, OCT. 7
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

FRI, OCT. 8
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

SAT, OCT. 9
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

SUN, OCT. 10
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

MON, OCT. 11
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

TUE, OCT. 12
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

WED, OCT. 13
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

THU, OCT. 14
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

FRI, OCT. 15
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

SAT, OCT. 16
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

SUN, OCT. 17
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

MON, OCT. 18
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

TUE, OCT. 19
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

WED, OCT. 20
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

THU, OCT. 21
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

FRI, OCT. 22
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

SAT, OCT. 23
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

SUN, OCT. 24
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

MON, OCT. 25
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

TUE, OCT. 26
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

WED, OCT. 27
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

THU, OCT. 28
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

FRI, OCT. 29
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

SAT, OCT. 30
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

SUN, OCT. 31
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): The Deep End
of the Ocean (2:00)(12)
5:50 News (6)

Evening
7:00 NHK News (1)
12:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

MON, OCT. 4
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

WED, OCT. 6
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

THU, OCT. 7
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

FRI, OCT. 8
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SAT, OCT. 9
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SUN, OCT. 10
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

MON, OCT. 11
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

TUE, OCT. 12
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

WED, OCT. 13
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

THU, OCT. 14
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

FRI, OCT. 15
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SAT, OCT. 16
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SUN, OCT. 17
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

MON, OCT. 18
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

TUE, OCT. 19
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

WED, OCT. 20
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

THU, OCT. 21
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

FRI, OCT. 22
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SAT, OCT. 23
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SUN, OCT. 24
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

MON, OCT. 25
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

TUE, OCT. 26
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

WED, OCT. 27
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

THU, OCT. 28
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

FRI, OCT. 29
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SAT, OCT. 30
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SUN, OCT. 31
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

Evening
7:00 NHK News (1)
12:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

MON, OCT. 4
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

WED, OCT. 6
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

THU, OCT. 7
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

FRI, OCT. 8
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SAT, OCT. 9
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SUN, OCT. 10
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

MON, OCT. 11
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

TUE, OCT. 12
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

WED, OCT. 13
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

THU, OCT. 14
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

FRI, OCT. 15
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SAT, OCT. 16
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

SUN, OCT. 17
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

MON, OCT. 18
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

TUE, OCT. 19
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

WED, OCT. 20
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

THU, OCT. 21
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4)
3:17 Classical Music (1)(1)

FRI, OCT. 22
13:00 U.S. Movie (1999): Class of 1999
(2:00)(12)
12:55-2:14 - TWENTY FOUR Series II (2 epi-
sodes)(8)
2:20 U.S. Movie (2000): Edge of the
Dark (1:59)(4

STORIES CLASSIFIED

100% Financing
800HighTech.com
CUSTOM COMPUTERS

Household Items 550
 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.
 Zama, James • New curtains and more. Call 640-659-2828.
Jobs Offered 630
 GOOVER ENGLISH SCHOOL, Dallas, TX • English teacher. Experienced Native English teacher. Call 640-659-2828.
 KADENS, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.
 ZAMA, James • New curtains and more. Call 640-659-2828.

Home Electronics 570
 Foster, Oklahoma • 19 inch VCR control. Good condition. Call 640-659-2828.
 Foster, Oklahoma • 19 inch VCR control. Good condition. Call 640-659-2828.
 Foster, Oklahoma • 19 inch VCR control. Good condition. Call 640-659-2828.

Lost 670
 Olan, Kansas • Texas A&M University. Lost. Call 640-659-2828.
 Olan, Kansas • Texas A&M University. Lost. Call 640-659-2828.
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Merchandise 700
 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.
 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.
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Music Instruments 740
 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.
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 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.

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 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.

Music Instruments 740
 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.
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 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.

Outdoor Living 775
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 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.

Pets 820
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 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.
 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.

PC Sale 780
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 Kadens, Christine • Vase Blinds for a sliding glass door. Call 640-659-2828.
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QIn a recent Pierce Brosnan film, the credits read "Mr. Brosnan's stand-in: Sean Brosnan." Is Sean a relative? — Geraldine DeBenedetti, Honolulu

ASean, 21, is his son. He hopes to follow in his dad's well-shod footsteps and attends drama school in London. Incidentally, Pierce, 52, has four other children, including the two older kids of his late first wife, Cassandra, whom he adopted. One of them, Chris, 31, recently was arrested in a London nightclub and reportedly is in a clinic for substance abuse.

QYou said that Steve Martin's 40 guest appearances set a "Tonight Show" record. But in 1997, Rodney Dangerfield said he'd already been on 70 times. Who's right? — Leigh P., Pontotoc, Miss.



KRT

Martin — still Leno's most frequent guest.

ARodney's total includes more than official guest appearances: He enjoys an open invitation from Jay Leno to pop in and surprise other guests, such as when he startled singer Michael Bolton, who'd just done a Rodney impression. Incidentally, the "I get no respect" comic underwent brain surgery last year and had a heart valve replaced in August at age 82.

QMy co-worker says Chelsea Clinton's newfound beauty is a result of cosmetic surgery. I say she has been working with a stylist. Who's right? — W.G. Weinzier, Madison, Ala.

AWe suspect it's a bit of both. Her rep would not confirm either but did say that Chelsea, 24, is still hot and heavy with longtime beau Ian Klaus, also 24. We hear that the two are living together (they deny they're engaged) in New York City, where Chelsea earns six figures as a marketing consultant.

QIn addition to being an actress, Jane Seymour is an artist. When did she start painting? — J.L., Raleigh, N.C.

A"I began studying watercolor around 1991 to help me heal from a tough time in my life," Jane, 53, tells us. "I'd just lost my dad, my third marriage was breaking up, and I was on the brink of bankruptcy." Today, her paintings fetch up to \$35,000.

QIs it true that Fiji-born PGA star Vijay Singh was once banned from playing golf for cheating? — Kenneth Rose, Ocala, Fla.

AYes. Vijay — who just replaced Tiger Woods as the world's top-ranked male golfer — was banned from the Asian tour in 1985 after being accused of altering a scorecard to make a cut. (He denies it.) The ban had a silver lining, however, as Vijay spent two years in Borneo perfecting his swing before re-emerging in Britain in 1987. Now 41, he has won \$35 million, including nearly \$9 million this year.



AP

Golfer Vijay Singh was banned on allegations of cheating in 1985, but has been on top of the world in 2004.



AP

Laila Ali, left, connects against boxing foe Gwendolyn O'Neil on Sept. 24 during an International Women's Boxing Federation light heavyweight title fight. Legendary boxer Muhammad Ali isn't a big fan of daughter Laila's time in the ring.



KRT

Wynnona Judd, right, poses with sister Ashley at a celebrity event Sept. 24. Wynnona, who has seen her share of trouble lately, is throwing her weight into her singing tour.

QWe caught Wynnona Judd on TV recently and were shocked at how she looked. Does she have weight problems? — Don and Nancy Pounds, Festus, Mo.

AWyn, 40, has always been a big girl, and she's had weight problems in recent years: the death of her dad (a man she'd never met), a costly divorce, the sale of her farm, an arrest for drunken driving and the loss of her license. But now she's doing what she loves — singing onstage. Her tour ends next month.

QHow does Muhammad Ali feel about daughter Laila's boxing career? — Tim Ward, Reno, Nev.

AHe doesn't like it. Ali, 62, was told that blows to the head led to his Parkinson's, and he fears that Laila, 26, could get hurt too. She has ignored his warnings.

QSaudi Crown Prince Abdullah says he's really serious about stamping out terrorism. Do you believe him? — Todd Bernstein, Miami, Fla.

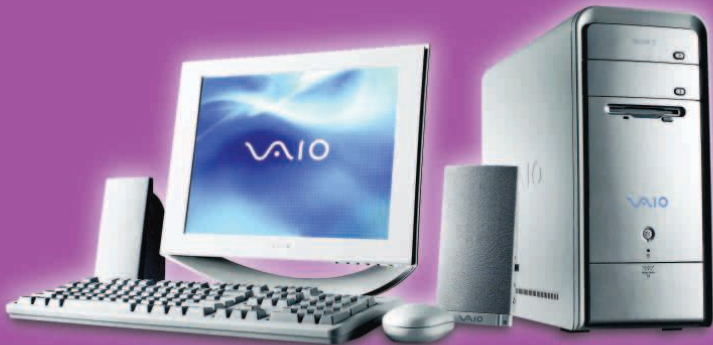
AWe're underwhelmed by the evidence. Rather, we'd note that the Saudis rely heavily on Westerners to run their oilfields, and Abdullah has launched a public-relations offensive to convince these technicians that it's safe to work in his country. As they say in Arabic: Inshallah — God willing.

QIn your opinion, what are the best film themes of all time? — Debra Frigutti, Sisters, Ore.

AOur Top 10: "Gone With the Wind," by Max Steiner; "Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head," from "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid," by Burt Bacharach; "Dr. Zhivago" and "Lawrence of Arabia," by Maurice Jarre; "Moon River," from "Breakfast at Tiffany's," and "The Pink Panther Theme," by Henry Mancini; "The Magnificent Seven," by Elmer Bernstein; "Star Wars," by John Williams; "The James Bond Theme," by Monty Norman; and "Do Not Forsake Me" from "High Noon," by Dimitri Tiomkin.

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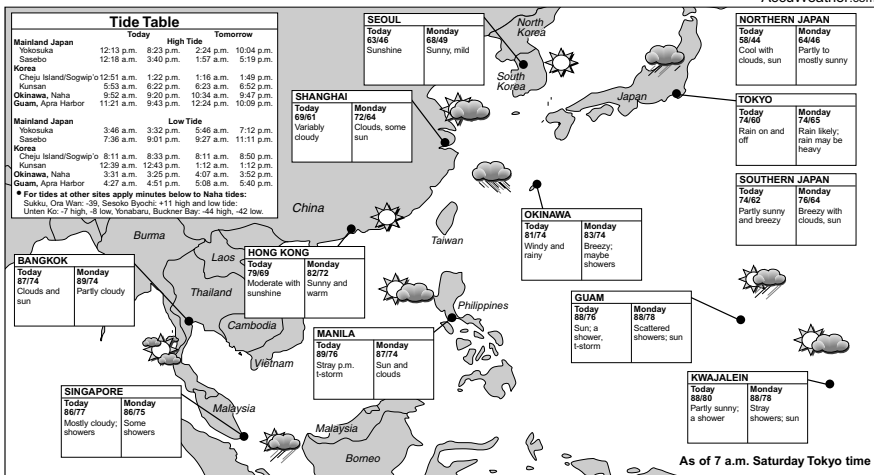
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The Pacific Forecast

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Extended Forecasts

TOKYO

Tuesday: Rain,
high 76, low 67.
Wednesday: Showers,
high 74, low 63.

KADENA

Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 85, low 74.
Wednesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 83, low 74.

SEOUL

Tuesday: Partly sunny, high 71, low 52.
Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 74, low 57.

MANILA

Tuesday: Showers,
high 87, low 74.
Wednesday: Showers
high 87, low 76.

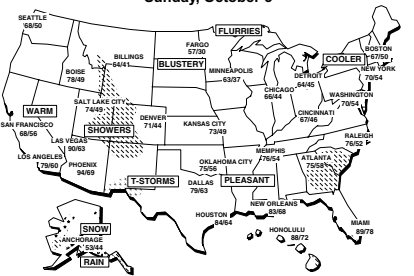
HAGATNA

Tuesday: Showers,
high 88, low 76.
Wednesday: Showers,
high 88, low 78.

Friday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	SEATTLE 68/90
Albuquerque	72/48	Los Angeles	74/58	
Anaheim		Little Rock	81/60	
Anchorage	47/30	Louisville	82/68	
Asheville	77/54	Miami	82/58	
Baltimore	76/57	Midwaukee	73/61	
Birmingham	89/64	Nashville	83/40	
Blackrock	49/30	New York	77/68	
Boise	76/51	Orlando	70/34	
Boston	70/55	Omaha	91/72	
Brownsville	94/76	Philadelphia	77/58	
Buffalo	72/53	Phoenix	76/56	
Burlington	72/53	Pittsburgh	76/58	
Charleston, SC	86/68	Portland, OR	78/50	
Charlotte	80/64	Portland, ME	71/47	
Chattanooga	77/48	San Jose	77/58	
Columbus, OH	78/55	St. Louis	77/46	
Duluth	55/27	San Antonio	91/72	
El Paso	82/56	San Diego	72/61	
El Paso	77/48	San Juan	76/58	
Helena	56/33	Tampa	90/74	
Indianapolis	78/53	Tulsa	80/46	
Jacksonville	88/70	Wichita	70/37	
Kansas City	68/38			

Sunday, October 3



U.S. Extended Forecast

As showery activity diminishes across Maine Sunday morning it will signify that the cold front, which brought showers and thunderstorms to most of the nation this past week, will have finally pushed off the East Coast. However, the tail end of the front will linger across the extreme Southeast, triggering a few showers and thunderstorms. An area of high pressure behind the front will keep the Northeast cool, while temperatures rebound across the Plains. A cold front dropping down from Canada will spark a few showers in the upper Great Lakes with cooler temperatures to follow. A ridge of high pressure will keep much of the western half of the nation dry.

Sunday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY
Bangkok	87/74	Iwakuni	74/62	Sasebo
Beijing	69/52	Kadena AB	61/74	Sapporo
Camp Casey	63/43	Kunsan AB	84/50	Seoul
Christchurch	53/38	Kwajalein	88/80	Shanghai
Diego Garcia	83/75	Manila	89/76	Singapore
Hagatna	88/76	Misawa AB	56/48	Sydney
Hanoi	77/67	Osan	63/45	Taegu
Hong Kong	79/69	Perth	70/54	Taipei
Honolulu	88/72	Pusan	67/57	Tokyo

Sunday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW	CITY	HIGHLOW
Acapulco	91/77	Budapest	65/46	Kabul	83/47	Nairobi	82/52
Athens	77/59	Buenos Aires	72/52	Kiev	53/36	New Delhi	80/55
Auckland	75/48	Cairo	92/66	Kuwait	10/75	Oslo	58/45
Bogotá	100/99	London	81/69	Manila	58/48	Paris	82/52
Barbados	90/74	Cape Town	63/45	Madrid	84/64	Rio de Janeiro	78/59
Barcelona	74/63	Geneva	85/55	Mexico City	72/54	Rome	76/52
Berlin	58/46	Istanbul	65/51	Montreal	58/45	St. Petersburg	50/36
Bermuda	88/73	Brussels	89/87	Mogadishu	81/73	Tokyo	49/68
Brussels	62/44	Johannesburg	83/60	Moscow	55/31	Warsaw	55/39



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UCLA—Announced OG Ryan Walcott transfer to Grand Canyon University.

Talladega tests drivers' nerves

Some call race 'wild card' in chase for Cup

BY MIKE HARRIS
The Associated Press

TALLADEGA, Ala. — Jeff Gordon has never enjoyed racing in the huge packs of cars created by the use of carburetor restrictor plates at Talladega Superspeedway.

"I never finish one of those races without a headache from concentrating so hard for so long," Gordon said.

Between the inherent danger of racing 500 miles with the horsepower-sapping plates slowing the cars, and often leading to multicar crashes, and the importance of Sunday's EA Sports 500 to the 10 drivers who are part of NASCAR's new 10-race Chase for the Nextel Cup championship, Gordon won't be the only one with frayed nerves.

Gordon won the April race at Talladega and the July event at Daytona International Speedway, but his recent success on the only tracks where NASCAR requires the plates to slow down the cars hasn't changed his mind about plate racing.

"You never know what is going to happen at the plate tracks, and that's where the tension comes in," said Gordon, who has a one-point lead over Kurt Busch after the first two races of the playoff-style title chase.

"With the draft, you can be leading on one lap and 25th on the next lap. Or you can be in the wrong spot and wind up in somebody else's wreck. You're on edge pretty much the whole race."

Heading into practice and qualifying Friday on the steeply banked 2.66-mile oval, there were four drivers bunched within 57 points of Gordon. Jeremy Mayfield, in 10th place with a 157-point deficit, is not completely out of the title picture with eight races remaining.

Third-place Dale Earnhardt Jr.



Kurt Busch (97), Kenny Wallace (00), Derricke Cope (50), Casey Kahne (9) and Rusty Wallace (2) collide on Turn 3 at Talladega Superspeedway during the Nextel Cup Series Aaron's 499 on April 25. The use of horsepower-sapping restrictor plates at Talladega and Daytona sometimes causes multiple accidents.

Nextel Cup driver standings

1. Jeff Gordon	5,371
2. Kurt Busch	5,370
3. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	5,330
4. Jimmie Johnson	5,314
(tie) Mark Martin	5,314
6. Elliott Sadler	5,272
7. Matt Kenseth	5,272
8. Ryan Newman	5,264
9. Tony Stewart	5,236
10. Jeremy Mayfield	5,214

is followed by Jimmie Johnson, Mark Martin, Elliott Sadler, defending series champion Matt Kenseth, Ryan Newman, Tony Stewart and Mayfield.

Martin and Busch have called the Talladega race the "wild card" in the championship, but Gordon doesn't want to put too much emphasis on this event.

"I think every race in the final 10 is crucial," the four-time Cup champion said. "To be honest, I think Martinsville (on Oct. 24) is more of a wild card than Talladega—that is, unless the 'Big One' occurs."

A victory for Gordon on Sunday would do more than assure him of keeping the points lead. It would also match the late Dale Earnhardt's feat of three plate

victories in the same year. The seven-time champion won both Talladega races and the July race at Daytona in 1990.

But Gordon said he is far more concerned with the championship battle than personal records.

"At Talladega, it's a matter of staying out of trouble and being in the right place at the right time," he said. "There's just so much tough competition that anything in the top 10 is a real good finish."

Among the competition, the drivers most likely to give Gordon a battle are Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Michael Waltrip.

Until Gordon won the last two races, those two had been almost unbeatable on the plate tracks.

From the season-opening Daytona 500 in 2001 through this year's 500-mile at the Florida track, the DEI duo had won 10 of 13 plate races. That included four in a row at Talladega by Earnhardt during one stretch, as well as a victory by Waltrip here last October. And Earnhardt didn't finish extending the team's dominance by much, finishing second to Gordon in the last two plate events.

It figures that Junior, who like his father seems to use the draft better than anyone at the two big tracks, is one of the few drivers who claims to love racing at the plate tracks. But he admits it isn't easy.

"It's not at all physically tough to race here, but the mental strain, the mental part of it is extremely exhausting," he said.

"You have to be aware at all times about where you're at and where everyone else is."

Waltrip, whose four career victories have all come at Daytona (three) and Talladega (one), isn't part of the 10-man championship chase, but he would love to get his first victory of the season Sunday.

"There are several races that anything can happen and Talladega is one of those places, for sure," Waltrip said. "At the same time, the fast guys usually wind up in the front and some of the guys that get shuffled back will wind up in a crash."

"You understand what you are faced with when you come here, and everyone knows this is a track that can put a wrench in your plans."

Navy: Late FG boosts team to 5-0

NAVY, FROM BACK PAGE

Air Force came right back down the field behind Camery's passing, tying the game on a 12-yard pass to Waller with 2:21 left.

Navy got the ball back at its own 25-yard line and quickly moved down the field.

Polanco broke off a 32-yard run up the middle to the Air Force 29, then Eric Roberts went off tackle for 13 more. After three runs up the middle, out-trotted Blumenthal, who split the up-rights, leaped over an Air Force defender and pumped his fist as he ran toward the sideline.

"I didn't have any doubt he was going to make it," Navy coach Paul Johnson said.

Polanco threw an interception on Navy's fifth play and Jason Tomlinson fumbled a punt just 3 minutes later. The Midshipmen weren't much better on defense, allowing Air Force to hold the ball for 12:56 of the first quarter.

Despite the sluggish start, Navy trailed just 6-0 after holding Air Force to Mike Greenway's two short field goals.

"We traded field goals for touchdowns and I really thought that might come back to bite us," DeBerry said. "And it did."

Thursday

Navy at Air Force 21

Navy	14	0	0	10-21
Air Force	21	0	0	14-21

First Quarter
AF—FG Greenway 28, 6:57

AF—FG Greenway 21, 13:50

Navy—Polanco 18 run (Blumenthal kick), 9:00

Navy—Polanco 1 run (Blumenthal kick), 3:23

Fourth Quarter

AF—Stephens 19 pass from Camery (Carney kick), 12:56

Navy—Eckel 3 run (Blumenthal kick), 4:15

AF—Waller 12 pass from Camery (Greenway kick), 2:21

Navy—FG Blumenthal 30, :04

AF—4:42, 7:0

First downs

46-216 15-182

Comp-Att-Int

5-10-1 18-24-2

Punt-Avg

5-48 5-40

Turnovers Lost

4-0 3-0

Penalties-Yards

25-10 25-10

Time of Play

29:30 34:24

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Robbins 3-20, 0:02, 0:02, 0:02, 12:71

Roberts 3-20, 0:02, 0:02, 0:02, 12:71

Reynolds 1-12, 0:02, 0:02, 0:02, 12:71

Cole 12-44, Shaffer 10-38, Butler 4-25, Handberg 1-12, 0:02, 0:02, 0:02, 12:71

3 (minus 6)

Passing—Navy, Polanco 5-10-105, Air Force, Camery 17-21-221, Fitch 13-30-112

Rushing—Navy, Nelson 2-70, 0:02, 11:11, Tomlinson 1-12, Roberts 1-10, Air Force, Meserian 1-12, Waller 6-102, Stephens 1-19, Holstiege 1-9

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State police look for answers behind death of former NFL lineman

The Associated Press

HERKIMER, N.Y. — State police said Friday they may never know what pushed a former NFL player to lead them on a highway chase ending with a fiery head-on crash that took his life.

Troopers believe alcohol may have played a role in Justin Strzelczyk's death Thursday morning but won't know until toxicology tests are completed by the state police crime lab in Albany. Tests could take a few weeks, said Trooper Jim Simpson.

During the chase, police saw Strzelczyk drinking a bottle of beer, which he later threw out the window at pursuing police.

Simpson said investigators will try to retrace Strzelczyk's steps leading up to the chase to determine what might have prompted him to flee police and crash his pickup. Strzelczyk was traveling nearly 90 mph when he collided with a tanker truck. Troopers said they did not see any brake lights on the pickup.

"We may never find out what happened or what was going through his mind," Simpson said.

Strzelczyk, 36, of McCandless, Pa., was an offensive lineman with the Steelers for nearly a decade until the team released him in February 2000.

The 6-foot-3, 309-pound Strzelczyk, who grew up in West Seneca, a suburb of Buffalo, was an 11th-round pick in the 1990 NFL Draft out of the University of Maine. He spent nine years with the Steelers and played in the 1995 Super Bowl.

Police gave this account of the crash: Strzelczyk fled a hit-and-run accident at 7:20 a.m. EDT just west of Syracuse, about 60 miles from Herkimer. State police put out an alert for the pickup and troopers spotted him about 40 minutes later, still heading east on the New York State Thruway.

Another trooper tried to stop the pickup by booby-trapping the road with tire-shredding "stop sticks." Strzelczyk just kept on going, driving 15 miles on three lanes of the pickup.

An eastbound "good Samaritan" trucker saw the chase and



Justin Strzelczyk

pulled his rig across the road in front of the pickup. On Friday, state police asked the public's help in identifying and locating the trucker. Instead of stopping, Strzelczyk swerved, shot across the grass median into the west-bound lanes and traveled about three miles in the wrong direction before colliding with the tanker.

Strzelczyk was ejected from his truck as both vehicles burst into flames. Strzelczyk died at the scene. The immediate cause of death was ruled multiple traumatic blunt force injuries, according to the autopsy report.

The driver of the tanker, Ernest Jackson, 60, from Bonman, S.C., was treated at a hospital for minor injuries and released. No one else was hurt.

Plummer to remove Tillman tribute

The Associated Press

DENVER — Denver Broncos quarterback Jake Plummer must remove the No. 40 decal he's worn on the back of his helmet since training camp that honors former Arizona Cardinals teammate Pat Tillman.

Tillman, the former safety who walked away from the NFL to join the U.S. Army Rangers and fight in Afghanistan, was killed in action in April.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said Wednesday the league's long-standing policy prohibits personal messages on uniforms

or helmets. Violators could face fines of \$5,000.

"We do that because we need a consistent rule. You can't just pick and choose and say one message is OK but another isn't. Where would you draw the line?" Aiello said.

The league has honored Tillman several times this year, including at the NFL Draft, at the Hall of Fame induction ceremony in August, and on the second week of the season when all NFL players wore Tillman's number on their helmets.

"I want to honor Pat the best I

can. I honor Pat every day, every game in my own private way," Plummer said. "I'm trying to get something done that won't interfere upon the NFL logo and uniform codes. I'm not going to fight the NFL. I'm looking for some kind of compromise."

Plummer and Tillman became close friends after playing together at Arizona State and later with the Cardinals. Plummer said he has been wearing a small No. 40 on the back of his helmet since training camp.

The Cardinals will display Tillman's number on their helmets every game this season.

Keeping up with Colts could be tough for Jags

By DAVE GOLDBERG

The Associated Press

The Jacksonville Jaguars managed to go 3-0 despite scoring only 35 points.

With Indianapolis coming to town Sunday, the Jaguars might need 35 just to keep pace with Peyton Manning.

Despite the Jaguars' record, the Colts are favored by 3½ points in an early showdown for first place in the AFC South (Indianapolis is a game ahead). Indianapolis is one of an unusually high 10 road teams favored this week.

On paper, the Jaguars don't match up well. Their strength is stopping the run with two young defensive tackles, Marcus Stroud and John Henderson. The Colts can run: Edgerrin James is fourth in the NFL in rushing.

But in a 45-31 victory Sunday over the Packers, the Colts passed 22 times and didn't run once in the first quarter, getting three quick touchdown passes from Manning. Jacksonville has allowed just 28 points all season; the Colts scored 21 in less than 11 minutes last week.

Another quick start would help Indy.

Two of the Jaguars' victories, against Buffalo and Tennessee, came on touchdowns in the final seconds. In the other win, Denver's Quentin Griffin fumbled with 37 seconds left and the Broncos within range of a winning field goal.

Things like that make young teams confident they can pull out any game.

But Manning plus James, Marvin Harrison, Reggie Wayne and Brandon Stokely might be a little too much to defend.

COLTS 35-24
New England (minus 5½) at Buffalo: The Patriots go for their 18th straight win, which would tie the NFL record. They lost 31-0 in Buffalo last year, then beat the Bills 31-0 at home. So ... **PATRIOTS 31 NO. 22-7**

Kansas City (plus 5) at Baltimore (Monday night): "I would

NFL picks

be fun to turn around our season on a Monday night because all the experts have probably already written us off," Dick Vermeil said. Desperation CAN equal victory. ... **CHIEFS, 20-19**

Atlanta (plus 3½) at Carolina: The Falcons would like to be this year's 30th Panthers. Not yet. ... **PANTHERS, 20-15**

Philadelphia (minus 8½) at Chicago: The Eagles are the only team with three double-digit wins that can't change this week. ... **EAGLES, 34-7**

New York Giants (plus 7) at Green Bay: Will Michael Strahan and Brett Favre become the quarterback duels to give the defensive line the sacks record in 2001? ... **PACKERS, 24-20**

Denver (minus 3) at Tampa Bay: The Bucs are reverting back to their first two decades as losers. ... **BRONCOS, 16-7**

New York Jets (minus 5) at Miami: The Jets are rested, the Dolphins puncluss. ... **JETS, 20-2**

Oakland (minus 2) at Houston: The Raiders were wise to sign Kerry Collins. ... **RAIDERS, 23-17**

Tennessee (minus 3) at San Diego: Expect Steve McNair to play. ... **TITANS, 21-13**

New Orleans (minus 3) at Arizona: The Cardinals try, but they're still the Cardinals. ... **SAINTS, 17-10**

Cincinnati (plus 4) at Pittsburgh: Ben Roethlisberger and Carson Palmer: OB of the future. ... **STEELERS, 17-9**

St. Louis (minus 3½) at San Francisco: The Rams won't have to try a squib kick against the puncluss 49ers. ... **RAMS, 24-13**

Washington (minus 2½) at Cleveland: The Browns have lost to the Cowboys and Giants in a sour tour through the NFC East. And they haven't played the Eagles since after Doug Flutie injured, and threw two touchdown passes in the fourth quarter.

Last week: 4-9-1 (spread), 9-2-1 (straight up). Season: 24-5-1 (spread), 34-12 (straight up).

49ers QB Rattay expects to play vs. Rams

The Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Quarterback Tim Rattay expects to return to the San Francisco 49ers' starting lineup Sunday after a two-week absence.

Rattay separated his throwing shoulder during San Francisco's season opener Sept. 12 against Atlanta and hasn't played since. Ken Dorsey took every snap for the 49ers in losses at New Orleans and Seattle.

Rattay returned to practice Wednesday and threw for the first time without taking pain-blocking injections. He had no soreness Thursday and looked strong leading the offense in team drills.

"It felt great today," Rattay said. "I feel 100 percent. I was fired up that it wasn't sore and I

NFL injury update

Injuries to prominent NFL players, followed by team's prognosis:

Giants: Safety Shaun Williams (left knee) underwent surgery and expects the rest of the season.

Chiefs: Kick returner Dante Hall (infectious mononucleosis) is expected to play Monday night at Baltimore.

felt like I was throwing a lot harder and had a lot of zip. The ball is popping out of there like it used to."

Coach Dennis Erickson also noticed improvement, but he stopped short of naming Rattay the starter for Sunday night's game against the St. Louis Rams.

"He looked better today than he was yesterday," Erickson said.

"He'll get better every day. We feel, unless there is some kind of temporary setback, that he'll

have a chance to play on Sunday. He's getting back where he was going into the Atlanta game."

Rattay separated his shoulder while being sacked in the second quarter against the Falcons and was replaced by Dorsey. Rattay returned after Dorsey was injured, and threw two touchdown passes in the fourth quarter.

Rattay needed pain-blocking injections to be available as Dorsey's backup each of the past two weeks. Dorsey struggled in those two games. His passer rating of 59.5 is the lowest in the NFC.

Dorsey is nursing a minor groin injury he suffered last week against Seattle. Erickson said he'll wait until Friday or Saturday to name the starter, but he also added, "We're probably as healthy as we've been at quarterback going into this game."

bad credit, no credit, no problem

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Els takes lead of AmEx with 64 in rainy Ireland

The Associated Press

THOMASTOWN, Ireland — The post-major furore behind him, Ernie Els was back in his element Friday.

Golf roundup

Playing some of his best golf in the worst conditions, Els breezed through a wacky day of weather in the American Express Championship by starting with four straight birdies and finishing with an 8-under 64, giving him a two-shot lead and hope that he still has a lot to play for this year.

"I didn't know what to expect today," Els said. "I wanted to just get my rhythm in position and throw every shot as they came. I mean, 64 in these conditions ... it's one of the better rounds I've played this year."

Els was at 11-under 133, and right behind him was a familiar foe.

No, not Tiger Woods. British Open champion Todd Hamilton, who went head-to-head with Els over the final 40 holes at Royal Troon before beating him in a playoff, had one of only two bogey-free rounds at Mount Juliet for a 69 and was at 9-under 135 with Miguel Angel Jimenez (68).

"I've seen everything except snow today," Hamilton said. Woods still struggled with a back injury, but he saved his worst grimaces for all the putts he missed.

Just one shot off the lead at one point, Woods took 19 putts over his final nine holes and had to settle for 10, leaving Jimenez and Els behind going into the weekend.

"I just had four holes where I spent a little more time on the

green than I should have," Woods said.

Everyone spent way too much time changing clothes.

The weather switched from showers to sunshine, from a warm breeze to cold gusts up to 20 mph, sometimes over the span of three holes.

"I was taking off jackets, putting on jackets, had the umbrella out, taking rain pants off, putting them back on," Hamilton said. "It was a nuisance. Plus, we got told we were behind, and that makes you speed up. I told him it was because we had to undress so many times."

It was a perfect day for Els.

The Big Easy prefers tropical warmth, which he gets at his beach house in South Africa. But he has a good history in bad weather, such as the 72 he shot in the third round at Muirfield in 2002 when he won the British Open.

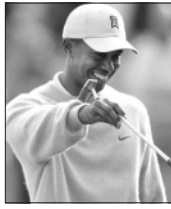
"I've been playing the European for 13 years now, so I think I've seen most conditions," Els said. "Just start learning after a while. When it's like this, it's a good opportunity to do something, maybe catch up."

Els did better than that, and quickly.

Three shots behind to start the second round, Els had the lead before Hamilton even got to the first tee. He holed a couple of short putts, nearly made a 30-footer on the fourth, then made an ace on the fourth.

He added two more birdies on the back nine, then ended his round with a 10-foot putt.

Jimenez will join Els in the final pairing Saturday thanks to a dynamic finish. He made a 25-foot hole-in-one, leaving a 66-hole lead on the next hole and finished with a shot equally impressive — a chip from deep rough on the side



Tiger Woods' struggles off the tee have continued in the American Express Championship. On Friday, he hit only six of 14 fairways, and through 36 holes his two shots have finished in the fairway 13 of 28 times.

of a mound to a tight pin. The ball nearly went in, and the Spaniard tapped in for par.

Justin Leonard, desperate to make the Tour Championship for the 10th straight year, had a 68 and was alone in fourth at 8-under 136. U.S. Open champion Retief Goosen, second to Els on the European money list, had a 69 and was at 137 with Lee Westwood (69), Thomas Bjorn (69) and Steve Fleish (70).

Woods joined Brad Faxon (68) and Padraig Harrington (69) among those another stroke back. In all, 13 players were within five shots of the lead after 36 holes.

Senden, Frazier, Day lead Southern Farm Bureau Classic

MADISON, Miss. — John Senden closed his 7-under 65 with his second eagle of the round and shared the lead with Frazier and Glen Day after the first round of the Southern Farm Bureau Classic.

Brothers Brenden and Deane Frazier, 21 and 20, and Glen Day, 20, all shared a 66-hole lead. Loren Roberts, Bill Glasson, David Sutherland and Patrick Sheehan.

Senden, Frazier and Day were as awkward as it might seem. Johnson did the same thing during the 2002 and 2003 postseasons, drawing rave reviews from players and coaches. His peg talk before Game 7 of a first-round series against Portland was widely credited with helping Dallas advance, ultimately to the Western Conference final.

"He's a guy that I have hand-picked to eventually replace me as I go into my retirement," said Nelson, who had an under contract for this season and two more. "I am really excited to have him here working alongside of me."

Grizzlies sign Gasol, Swift
MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Pau Gasol is in the NBA for three seasons. That's been long enough for the 7-foot Spaniard to realize he wants to keep working with Jerry West and Hubie Brown.

The Memphis Grizzlies agreed to terms with the 2002 NBA rookie of the year on a six-year contract extension. He still has one year left on his rookie contract.

Gasol, 24, led the Grizzlies last year with 17.7 points, 7.7 rebounds and 1.69 blocks per game. He ranked 20th in the NBA in field goal percentage and 18th in blocks.

On Thursday, the Grizzlies signed restricted free-agent forward

Rodman works out in Denver

The Associated Press

DENVER — The point guard thought he was great. The general manager had no comment. Dennis Rodman himself? He thinks the Denver Nuggets could use a guy like him.

The 43-year-old former NBA rebounding champion's comeback attempt took another step Thursday when he participated in an informal workout with the Nuggets.

"Talk to other players and they'll say that wasn't a 43-year-old guy that was running the show," Rodman told the Rocky Mountain News. "That wasn't a 43-year-old guy. That was a freak out there."

It was hard to tell whether he has a future with the Nuggets.

"I have no comment," Nuggets GM Kiki Vandeweghe said. "There's not really anything to say in Dennis' situation."

Mavs sign Johnson to be player/coach

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Here's a rare scene: The Dallas Mavericks held a news conference Thursday to announce the signing of a player who proclaimed that if all was planned, he won't play a minute this season.

And his bosses happily agreed. To go the hiring of Avery Johnson, technically as a backup point guard but realistically as another coach — possibly even the next head coach.

Johnson will start on the injured list, unless an injury to Jason Terry, rookie Devin Harris or swingman Marquis Daniels forces him onto the roster.

"If I'm out there starting, we're in trouble," Johnson said, flashing his ever-present grin.

Instead of a jersey, Johnson will wear a suit and work closely with coach Don Nelson and his staff. He'll spend half-times with them, not his teammates. And when he's on the floor during practices, he's more likely to be blowing a whistle than leading a fast break.

Johnson did the same thing during the 2002 and 2003 post-seasons, drawing rave reviews from players and coaches. His peg talk before Game 7 of a first-round series against Portland was widely credited with helping Dallas advance, ultimately to the Western Conference final.

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On Thursday, the Grizzlies signed restricted free-agent forward

ward Stromile Swift to a one-year deal. Terms of the contract were not released.

The 6-foot-9, 225-pound Swift averaged 9.4 points, 4.9 rebounds and had a career-high 118 blocked shots last season as primarily a reserve.

Atlanta officials watch Eddie Griffin work out

HOUSTON — Atlanta Hawks General Manager Billy Knight and director of basketball operations Chris Grant were in Houston on Thursday to watch troubled forward Eddie Griffin work out, a television station reported.

Griffin, cut last season by the New Jersey Nets and the Houston Rockets, said Atlanta and the Los Angeles Lakers are among several teams considering signing him for the upcoming season.

"Definitely I.A., with Rudy (Tomjanovich) over there, Miami, Minnesota and Atlanta," Griffin told Houston television station KRIV in a released audio interview.

Griffin, the seventh pick in the 2001 draft, missed the entire 2003-04 season because of legal battles over substance-abuse issues. He was given 18 months probation in March after pleading guilty to a misdemeanor charge of deadly conduct. He was ordered to continue outpatient treatment for alcohol abuse.

Griffin also was fined \$1,000 by a judge who suspended his driver's license for six months following a marijuana conviction in January.

Cavaliers sign guard Harris

CLEVELAND — Lucious Harris signed Friday with the Cleveland Cavaliers, who hope the New Jersey Nets veteran can strengthen a backcourt weakened by injuries last season.

Harris, 33, is being counted on as a backup for shooting guard Eric Snow and point guard Jeff McInnis. The two were hurt late last season, and the backups did not play well in the Cavaliers' unsuccessful bid for a playoff spot.

Released documents reveal details of Bryant's encounter with accuser

The Associated Press

EAGLE, Colo. — The woman who accused Kobe Bryant of rape told investigators the NBA star ignored her entreaties to stop sex, said there was no doubt he heard her "because every time I said 'No' he tightened his hold around me," according to documents released Friday.

That is among the never-before-released details of the woman's interview with Eagle County sheriff's investigators. Some details of the interview were released months ago, before the rape charge against Bryant was dismissed at the woman's request.

During an interview with deputies, the then-19-year-old woman said she and Bryant kissed for several minutes at the Vail-area resort where she worked before he became aggressive and began groping her in his room.

The woman, who was a front desk employee, said he put both his hands around her neck and after bending her over a chair, re-

leased the report had no indication been returned.

The sprawling investigation of the scandal resulted in a single indictment against a former football recruiting aide, Nathan Maxcay.

He is charged with misdemeanor solicitation and two felonies: embezzlement of public property and theft, both related to allegations he used a cell phone to pull a dating chat line.

Maxcay has said he used a university-issued cell phone to call an escort service but that the calls were to arrange liaisons only for himself.

The grand jury reportedly criticizes how Boulder campaign chairman Richard Byyny oversaw the athletic department and the male athletic director Dick Tharp and football coach Gary Barnett created within the department.

The Board of Regents reportedly agreed to sue District Judge Jeffrey Bayless to suppress the report because the grand jury called them "unqualified" to oversee the athletic department.

moved one hand to pull down her underwear.

"At that point, I was just kind of scared and I said 'No' a few times," she said.

In the interview, sheriff's Deputy Doug Winters then asked how she knew that Bryant heard her.

"Behind every time I said 'No' he tightened his hold around me," she replied.

Bryant, 26, still faces a federal lawsuit filed by the woman that seeks unspecified damages for pain and suffering she says she has endured since the incident last summer. No trial date has been set.

Grand jury investigation of CU scandal to stay sealed

DENVER — A judge has rejected requests to unseal Judge John J. Haggerty's investigation of the sex-and-booze scandal surrounding the University of Colorado football program, saying he could

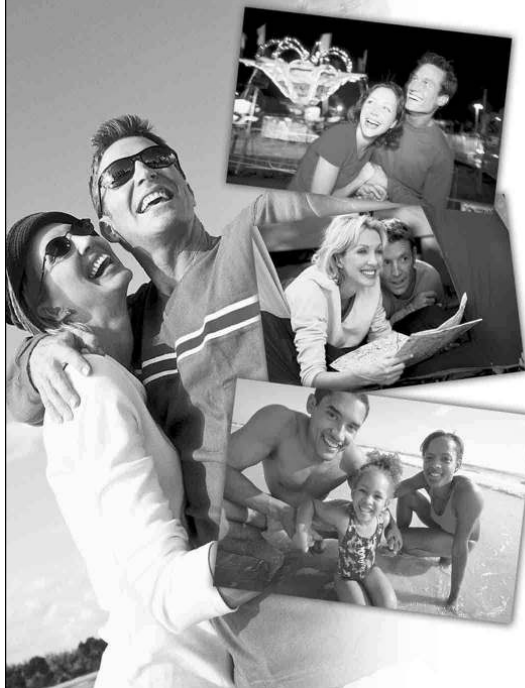
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Championship prescription

Osofuhene helps Wing win first Marine Forces title

BY DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Desperate for a center-midfielder after his starter got sent off in the semifinals and was forced to miss the championship, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing coach Peter Burchenson turned to a guy who by day works as a pharmacy technician.

Samuel "Doc" Osofuhene proceeded to fill out his own prescription — a championship one, scoring two goals and assisting on another as Wing captured its first Marine Forces Pacific Regional Soccer Tournament title by downing Marine Corps Base Camp Butler 4-1 Friday.

"He's been playing well all tournament," said Burchenson, who inserted Osofuhene into the center-mid spot after losing starter Arturo Escamilla for the final match. Escamilla was sent off late in Wing's 2-0 semifinal victory over Iwakuni Air Station for getting his second caution of the match.

"I knew he could play it. He did everything he was supposed to," Burchenson said.

In so doing, Osofuhene, 22, a lance corporal of Chaudan descent who lives in Chester, N.Y., as his hometown, boosted Wing to its first tournament title in only its second championship appearance. Base was making its first finals appearance.

It was the first time since 1995 that the tournament champion wasn't 3rd Force Service Support Group of Okinawa, champions in 2000 and 2001, or Marine Corps Base Hawaii, which won from 1995-99 and 2002-03.

"It feels good," said Osofuhene.

He was in the thick of things from the start, as Wing pressed the attack in the first 15 minutes, going right after Base's 4-4-2 alignment. Wing, concentrating on stopping center-forward Evange-

los Chimonas, with 10 tournament goals, avenues opened for Osofuhene and others.

Their sweeper was always comfortable back there. He was never tested," Burchenson said. "We put Chimonas back there and the sweeper never got comfortable, and it opened things up for everybody else."

"I moved to the left and five people moved with me," Chimonas said. "That leaves others open in the middle. Doc's (Osofuhene) taking care of business today. That teamwork."

Ten minutes in, Osofuhene fed left wing Alimune Diop, going toward the left corner. He sent a crossing shot into the net past diving Base goalkeeper Chad Glezzen.

Four minutes later, with Wing's Anthony Vargas set to take a corner kick, Osofuhene slid toward the far post, Vargas sent the ball to him and he headed it into the net for what proved to be the match winner. "I knew it was coming to me," Osofuhene said. "I took my time, put it on the ground. I knew it was going in."

Base then changed its alignment, moving Christopher Blake, normally a defenseman, up front. That worked earlier, when Base knocked out 3rd Force 1-0 in the semifinals on Blake's goal, but not until late in the final.

By the time Blake converted Randall Martinez's through ball in the 68th minute, it meant only that Base trimmed Wing's lead to 3-1. Wing increased its margin in the 44th minute, on Osofuhene's header off a throw-in by Tony Winters.

Chimonas, the tournament's MVP, sealed it with his 10th goal in the 81st minute up a Vargas assist. Goalkeeper Michael Mulroney did the rest, stopping two clutch shots by Base's Eric Solano and Shelo St. Pierre midway through the second half.

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: ornauer@stripes.com

Local scoreboard

Interservice Soccer Marine Forces Pacific Regional Tournament

At Field 1, Foster Field Complex,
Camp Foster, Okinawa

Single-elimination playoffs
Quarterfinals

Game 1—3rd Force Service Support Group,
Okinawa, 0, U.S. Naval Hospital Camp Lester,
Okinawa, 0

Game 2—Iwakuni Air Station, Japan, 4, Ma-
rine Corps Base Hawaii 3, 50 (5-0)

Game 3—1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa,
2, 3rd Force Service Support Group, Okinawa,
1

Friday's games

Game 4—Marine Corps Base Camp Butler,
Okinawa, 1, 3rd Force Service Support Group,
Okinawa, 1

Game 5—Wing 2, Iwakuni 0

Championship

Game 6—Wing 4, Base 1

Awards

Most Valuable Player—Evangelos Chimonas,
Wing

All-Tournament Coach—Peter Burchenson,
Wing

Jesse Tamayo Award (team sportsman-
ship)—Alimune Diop

Hospitality Award—Evangelos Chimonas,
Wing

Offensive Player of the Week—Christopher Blake,
Thomas Roberts, Juan Torres, 3rd Force

Service Don Juan, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing,
Barros-Varela, Hawaii; Emanuel Agbemele, Diop,
Alimune Diop, Evangelos Chimonas, Wing; Juan Torres, 3rd Force

Thursday's game

Yokota 55, American School in Japan 0

Friday's game

Nile K. Kinnick 26, Robert D. Edgren 20

Friday, Oct. 8
Nile K. Kinnick vs. Zama American at Atsu-
gawa Naval Air Station, 7 p.m.
Yokota at Japan City, 7 p.m.

Japan tennis

Friday's results
At Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan

Nile K. Kinnick & Robert D. Edgren 1
Boys

John Will, Kinnick, fed, Martin Vogel 6-2,
6-2

Dennis Hirata, Kinnick, fed, Hovanon 4-6,
6-2, 6-2, 6-2

Paolo Arimando, Kinnick, fed, Nathan Fine
6-4, 6-2

Doubles

Chris Morris and Marc Chaud, Kinnick, fed,
Thomas Harwell and Evan Tablin 5-7, 6-4,
6-1

John Davidson and Anthony Laos, Edgren,
fed, Sheard Harrington and Justin Clemente
6-2, 6-2

Girls

Nile K. Kinnick & Robert D. Edgren 1
Boys

Tori Lee, Edgren, fed, Joyce Cao 6-4, 5-7,
6-3

Katerina Haboran, Kinnick, fed, Amber Kers
6-0, 6-0

Chantel Fabiano, Kinnick, fed, Kylie Most
6-0, 6-0

Doubles

Diana Lee and Catherine Cuswa, Kinnick,
fed, Jessica Brown and Rene Radloff 6-0,
6-2

Japan cross country

Wednesday's results

At Oak Park, Tokyo

Boys team scores

Christian Academy in Japan 19, Yokota 50
Christian Academy in Japan 19, Zama
American 42

Zama American 20, Yokota 35
Boys individual top runners
by school time

CA-Joni Yokota, 22 minutes, 4 seconds.
Zama-Chris Cerillo, 22:14.
Yokota-Steven Brink, 24:04.

Girls team scores
Christian Academy in Japan 19, Yokota 39
Girls individual top runners
by school time

CA-Megan Haboran and Yuka Sakuma-
to, 20 minutes, 13 seconds.
Yokota-Brett Wagner, 20:17.
Zama-Jennifer Blair, 20:53.

Kinnick gets a scare, but gets past Edgren in JFL matchup

Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Nile K. Kinnick managed to remain a game behind Yokota in the Japan Football League, but not before the young, surging Robert D. Edgren Eagles gave the Red Devils a major scare.

Adam Krievs caught a 20-yard touchdown pass from third-string quarterback Enrique Cuevas with 50 seconds remaining as Kinnick (3-1) completed a comeback from a 20-12 second-half deficit

to post a 28-20 victory at Eagles Field.

"They [Eagles] played a great game," Kinnick offensive coordinator Jimmy Davis said, praising Edgren coach Jim Burgess for doing "a wonderful job with 28 players, and 13 of them freshmen."

The Eagles (2-2) came into Friday's contest riding a two-game winning streak, their longest in three seasons.

Davis said that he could sense even during pregame warms

up that Edgren would be a tough opponent.

"They kept talking about keeping up the intensity that helped them win their last two games," Davis said. "They came out ready."

Even Burgess seemed surprised at the effort by his young charges, many of whom were playing out of position because of injuries.

"We had a lot of kids ... just playing on heart," Burgess said. In the past, whenever a superi-

or team got up to a quick start, as Kinnick did on Andy Brown's 67-yard punt return, "our kids would fold," Burgess said. "The kids never gave up. They got a glimpse tonight that they can play with good teams."

Jacques Moton fired the first warning shot, returning an interception 95 yards to help give Edgren an 8-6 lead at halftime.

The Devils surged in front on Jarvis Williams' 16-yard TD run, only to watch the Eagles pull ahead 20-12 thanks to Woody

Carter's hook-and-lateral play that went 65 yards and Rickey Andersen's 1-yard scoring run.

Williams rallied Kinnick — playing without star senior Lenny Lynce, who was held out of the lineup due to a "coach's decision," Davis said — with a 1-yard fourth-quarter scoring run and Cuevas' two-point conversion, setting the stage for Krievs' game-winning score.

Krievs ran 24 times for 124 yards, Williams 19 for 104 and Cuevas was 2-for-3 for 33 yards.

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15-6, .71, 3.66; Schmidt, San
7, .708, 3.29; Peavy, San Diego,
RJohnson, Arizona, 282;
aukee, 253; Schmidt, San Fran-
Perez, Pittsburgh, 230; Clem-
218; Oswalt, Houston, 200;
ago, 190.
Johnson, St Louis 46; Ben-

Cubs' playoff bid takes another hit

Chicago falls 1½ games behind Astros, Giants in wild-card race

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Pitcher Mike Hampton homered off Kerry Wood and the Atlanta Braves sent the collapsing Chicago Cubs to the verge of wild-card elimination, holding on for a 5-4 victory on Friday.

The Cubs scored three times in the ninth inning, but the rally fell short. Chicago's sixth loss in seven games dropped the Cubs 1½ games behind wild-card co-leaders San Francisco and Houston heading into the final weekend of the season.

Frustrated fans at Wrigley Field littered the outfield with debris just before the bottom of the eighth and the grounds crew had to run on the field and clean it up, delaying the game for a couple of minutes.

In the ninth, pinch-hitter Ben Griest hit a two-run double off Chris Reitsma that made it 5-3. Pinch-hitter Jose Macias greeted Kevin Grysbyk with an RBI single.

But Corey Patterson struck out and Derrek Lee hit a hard comebacker that glanced off Grysbyk's glove to shortstop Rafael Furcal, who made the throw to first for the final out. Grysbyk got his second save.

The Cubs lost two of three to the New York Mets and then three of four to the Cincinnati Reds in what was considered the easiest path to the wild card. Now the Cubs must beat the 13-time division champion Braves on Saturday and Sunday and hope for help.

Atlanta wrapped up the NL's second seed with its 95th victory, three more than NL West leader Los Angeles, ensuring home-field advantage in the first round of the playoffs. Even if the Dodgers and Braves finish in a tie with 95 wins, Atlanta would get the homefield advantage by virtue of a 4-3 advantage in the series between the teams this season.

Hampton (13-9) allowed four hits in six innings. DeWayne Wise, the No. 8 hitter in the Braves' order, helped out with a two-run homer off Wood (8-9). Hampton's 14th career homer, a two-out, two-run shot, made it 4-1 in the fifth and the Braves added a run in the fifth when J.D. Drew was hit by a pitch, second baseman Mark Grudzielniak bobbled a double-play grounder and Johnny Estrada had an RBI single. Wise's two-run shot came in the second.

Hampton, 12-2 in his last 16 starts, gave up a one-out double to Moises Alou in the sixth and then walked Nomar Garciaparra before retiring the side in his final inning.

Wood allowed 10 hits and five runs in seven innings with no walks and three strikeouts.

In Thursday's NL games:

Dodgers 4, Rockies 2 (11): Los Angeles put itself in prime position to make the playoffs heading into the final weekend of the regular season, rallying from a 10th-inning deficit to beat host Colorado in the 11th on a two-run homer by David Ross.

Los Angeles took a three-game lead over the Giants heading into a three-game series against San Francisco at Dodger Stadium starting Friday night.

"The good thing is that they're going to see us clinch against them," Dodgers closer Eric Gagne said. "It's going to be amazing and a lot of fun — especially for the fans. They'll be able to see us do it against the hated Giants."

Ross was batting just .169 before his homer off Brian Fuentes (2-4). It was Ross' fifth homer this season and first since Aug. 11.

Colorado took a 2-1 lead in the 10th on Jeremy Buzia's two-out RBI single off Gagne, who was pitching one day after receiving a cortisone injection for stiffness in his right shoulder.

The Dodgers tied it in the bottom half of Chin-hui Tsao when Hee-Seop Choi doubled, took third as Tsao threw wildly to first on Cesar Izturis' sacrifice bunt



Atlanta's Dewayne Wise, right, is congratulated by teammate Adam LaRouche after hitting a two-run home run in the second inning Friday against the Chicago Cubs.

and scored on Jayson Werth's flyout.

Thency Brazoban (5-2) blanked Colorado in the 11th, ending it by throwing a called third strike past Royce Clayton with runners at the corners.

Colorado closes with three games at Houston.

Giants 4, Padres 1: Jerome Williams pitched seven innings in his first start in two months to lead the Giants over host San Diego. San Francisco tied idle Houston atop the wild-card race, one game ahead of the Chicago Cubs, who lost 2-1 in 12 innings to Cincinnati. The Padres are three games behind San Francisco.

Ray Durham homered off Adam Eaton (11-14) leading off the four-run fourth. The Padres committed two errors in the inning, leading to three unearned runs. Williams (10-7) allowed one run and four hits, struck out three and walked one.

San Diego closes with three games at Arizona.

Brewers 7, Cardinals 6: Visiting Milwaukee sent the NL Central champions to their first four-game losing streak of the year. Matt Morris (15-10), the Cardinals' likely starter in their playoff opener next week, allowed six runs and seven hits in four innings.

Phillies 7, Marlins 4: Pat Burrell went 4-for-4, including a tie-breaking two-run single off Guillermo Mota (9-8) in the host Phillies' six-run seventh. Todd Jones (11-5) threw a scoreless seventh and Billy Wagner pitched the ninth for his 21st save.

Guillen, Angels settle, but suspension stands

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Outfielder Jose Guillen and the Anaheim Angels have reached a financial settlement to resolve the grievance filed after the team recently suspended him without pay for the rest of the season.

The terms weren't disclosed Friday in a statement by Major League Baseball. The sides agreed that Guillen will not rejoin the Angels for the remainder of the regular season.

Guillen was suspended Sept. 26 following his outburst after being removed for a pinch-runner the previous day. The players' union filed a grievance on Sept. 27.

Anaheim began Friday tied with Oakland for the AL West lead. If the Angels win the division, they will have until the day of their playoff opener to decide whether to put Guillen on the postseason roster.

When the Angels suspended Guillen, they said the penalty would continue into the postseason if the team made it that far. Guillen hit .294 with 27 homers and a career-high 104 RBIs in 148 games.

After being pulled, Guillen tossed his helmet toward the side of the dugout where manager Mike Scioscia was standing and walked to the opposite side of the dugout. He then slammed his glove against the wall.

Scioscia later said the suspension "wasn't a knee-jerk reaction" and was based on more than just what happened in that game.

Jays to stay in Canada

TORONTO — The Toronto Blue Jays are financially solid and have no plans to follow the Montreal Expos to the United States, team president Paul Godfrey said.

"Are we looking in the mirror and seeing the picture of the Montreal Expos? No, I'm not too concerned about that," Godfrey said Thursday.

Godfrey cited local ownership, a viable stadium, a good television contract and improving attendance as reasons why the Blue Jays will not follow many other Canadian-based clubs to the United States. On Wednesday, baseball announced that the Expos were headed to Washington, D.C. next season, joining the NBA's

MLB briefs

NLSE wants baseball team

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — While luring the New York Mets across the river is a long shot, the head of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority said Thursday that any major league baseball team moving to the state would thrive.

"We are going to create an environment where they can make money," George Zoffman said.

Zoffman confirmed a report in The Star-Ledger of Newark Thursday that state officials were interested in getting the Mets to move from Shea Stadium in New York City.

"We're going to give them the first opportunity to take advantage," Zoffman said. "If they don't, there has to be someone out there who would be interested in seeing the value of their team increase."

Mohr has strained tendon

SAN DIEGO — San Francisco Giants outfielder Dustan Mohr has a strained tendon in his left knee and is expected to miss the rest of the regular season. Mohr was hurt Wednesday night when he caught Mark Loretta's sacrifice fly in foul territory and tripped over the mound in the Giants' bullpen down the right-field line, hyperextending his knee.

Mohr flew to San Francisco on Thursday for an MRI. Trainer Stan Conte said the ligaments in Mohr's knees look OK.

Woman star of 1950s dies

AVONDALE, Pa. — Gertrude Dunn, the 1952 rookie of the year in the All American Girls Professional Baseball League immortalized in the 1992 film "A League of Their Own," died Wednesday when the plane she was piloting crashed soon after takeoff. She was 72.

Dunn, also a member of the U.S. Field Hockey Hall of Fame, was at the controls of the single-engine plane when it crashed shortly after takeoff from New Garden Airport, officials said.

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2006 Volkswagen
Beetle Convertible



SPORTS



Plummer won't challenge
NFL uniform rule with
Tillman tribute, Page 41

Taking command



Navy's Matt Hall (36), David Mahoney (40) and Jontavious Singleton (10) celebrate their 24-21 victory over Air Force with teammates at Falcon Stadium in Air Force Academy, Colo. on Thursday. Navy (5-0) can retain the Commander in Chief's Trophy with a victory over Army on Dec. 4.

Navy defeats Air Force, closes in on defending Trophy

BY JOHN MARSHALL

The Associated Press

AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Geoff Blumenfeld lined up for the game-winning kick, only to head back to the sideline because of a timeout. He trotted back out to the field again and — yes — another timeout.

Entering the game 0-for-the season, Blumenfeld should have been nervous from the startling tactic. He wasn't.

Blumenfeld picked a good time to make his first field goal, nailing a 30-yarder with 4 seconds left to lift Navy to a 24-21 victory over Air Force on Thursday night.

"What an opportunity," Blumenfeld said. "All year long we've talked about getting opportunities and taking the opportunities afforded you. Tonight was an opportunity."

Blumenfeld's kick has given Navy (5-0) a chance to do something it hasn't done since 1981:

win the Commander in Chief's Trophy in consecutive years. The Midshipmen ended Air Force's six-year run last year with a 28-25 victory and can repeat as service academy champion by beating Army on Dec. 4.

Air Force (2-3), on the other hand, is looking for ways to turn around what has so far been a disappointing season. After losses to California and Utah, both ranked teams, the Falcons are off to their worst start since opening the 1994 season 0-3.

"I still think we have a competitive football team," Air Force coach Fisher DeBerry said. "It'll be interesting to see how our team rebounds now after such a disappointing loss."

The matchup between two of the nation's top rushing teams was decided by a couple of key passes down the stretch — and one big kick by Blumenfeld.

Air Force, eighth in the nation with 278 yards rushing per game,

managed just 182 against the Midshipmen before turning to the air.

Shaun Carney, who was replaced by Adam Fitch in the third quarter, returned to hit J.P. Waller on a 38-yard pass between two defenders and Alec Messerall on a 10-yarder to Navy's 19.

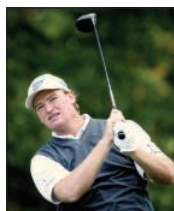
Carney, who finished with 221 yards, hit Darnell Stephens for a touchdown on the next play, then ran in for the two-point conversion to tie the game 14-14. "When I came back, it was like 'it's time to roll or we're not going to win,'" said Carney, who went 17-for-21 with two touchdowns and two interceptions. "Everybody on offense had to step up and that's just what we did."

It just wasn't enough. Navy, which had 22 total yards and no first downs in the third quarter, countered with a 66-yard pass from Aaron Polanco to Marco Nelson on third and 2. That set up Kyle Eckel's 3-yard touchdown run on an option right.

SEE NAVY ON PAGE 40



Navy quarterback Aaron Polanco breaks through a hole against Air Force on Thursday. He ran for 71 yards and two touchdowns.



Els charges into
lead in American
Express
Championship with
a wind-swept 64

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Yankees clinch
seventh straight
AL East title;
Cubs' playoff
hopes dealt
another blow

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Defense-minded
Jaguars need
scoring surge
to get past Colts

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